

Mail Order Catalogue **Spring 2017**

PLANTS AND BULBS
TO FLOWER IN THE SUMMER
AND SNOWDROPS

www.avonbulbs.co.uk



Winners of...
29 Gold Medals at Chelsea in 30 years



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WELCOME TO THE AVON BULBS SPRING CATALOGUE 2017

2016 must surely go down as a bit of a shocker? Hardly a winter to speak of in 2015/16, which may be a blessing to our many readers, but it does confuse the plants! This does result in difficulties for us in timing the despatch of orders and for growing plants for flower shows which remain on a set timetable regardless of season or even global warming. Then the Brexit result, the outcome of the election in the USA and now temperatures down to -6° C in November. Fortunately one thing that did go to plan was the installation of our new Mail Order system which appears to be working well and allowing us to do more of what you want us to do for you. We also made it a clean sweep of Gold Medals at the major shows that we attend – Malvern, Chelsea, Gardeners' World and Hampton Court.

So can I suggest that when the world seems to go mad, turn off the phone, the radio and TV and find some peace and stability in the certainty that winter will give way to spring, the snowdrops will emerge and bloom ahead of the daffodils. It may get wet or dry or windy but some exercise and time in the garden will help to set your own piece of this world to rights!

CHRIS IRELAND JONES



Sales and Events in the Spring of 2017 that we shall be attending.

Altamont Gardens, County Carlow, Ireland

Lectures from Julian Sutton and Kevin Hughes at Ballykealey Manor with garden tours and plant sales at Altamont a short drive away afterwards.
Contact Hester Forde: hesterforde@gmail.com

Saturday 4 Feb

Alpine Garden Society Conference, Newport, Shropshire

Lectures by John Grimshaw, Joe Sharman and Vojtech Holubec
Several snowdrop nurseries attending. Bookings through the AGS: 01386 554790

Saturday 4 Feb

Shaftesbury Snowdrop Gala

Talks by Tom Mitchell, Alan Street, and Lord Heseltine. Followed by plant sales and garden visits. Part of a well organised week long event.

Website: www.shaftesburysnowdrops.org/#/study-day-2017

Saturday 11 Feb

RHS Early Spring Plant Fair, Vincent Sq. London.

Always a busy event, especially on Tuesday, and everyone will be there, so a great place to catch up! Website: www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/rhs-london-shows

Tuesday 14 and Wed 15 Feb

Orlich, near Nettetal, Germany

Busy early season plant fair, outdoors(!) in the grounds of a small village hotel. Refreshments and huge pieces of cake for sale! Slightly mad, weather dependant but usually great fun.

Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 Feb

Gartneriet Spiren, Skælskør 4230, Denmark

On the plant nursery of Danish friends who concentrate on Hellebores mainly, a few other sellers. Our first time. Website: <http://www.gartnerietspiren.dk/>

Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 Feb

Cottage Garden Society Snowdrop Event

Godolphin School, Salisbury. Speakers: Jennifer Harmer and Chris Horsfall followed by garden visits. Booking contact: Pamela Lucas 01235 555536

Saturday 18 Feb

Mannheim Spring flower show (near Frankfurt)

In the remarkable Luisenpark held in a glasshouse-like hall, lectures and a variety of plant nurseries. Entry to Park: 6.00 Euro
Contact: schneegloeckchentage@gmail.com

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 Feb

Hardy Plant Soc. Early Spring Plant Fair, East Lambrook Manor

A very busy event with a wide range of stalls in an iconic cottage garden setting. Details: www.hardy-plant.org.uk/somerset

Saturday 25 March

Gardens Illustrated Festival 2017,

Westonbirt School, Tetbury

A great line up of speakers and lectures, a vintage shopping marquee and a lovely venue. Details: www.gardensfestival.com/

Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 March

We can bring your pre-booked potted snowdrop orders only to events that we attend but these need to be booked well in advance, with the crush of events in mid February we need a full 2 weeks' notice please.

Sign Up to our Newsletter



We send out a newsletter once a month (no more!) alerting you to any events we might be attending or awards we might have won, sales at the nursery, seasonal special offers on the website, comments on items in the gardening press, hints and tips which we hope might be useful. All you need to do is register your email address on the website, and you can unsubscribe at any time.



Five Year Diaries!



This remarkable diary really is a real memory builder!

As you fill one entry you cannot help but look back to what you wrote on the same day in past years. Keeping a record year on year of the weather for the day can really help you understand your garden and its microclimate, as well as remind you of your gardening successes and lessons to learn. But you can also include films you saw, books you read, how much jam you made, who called for a chat or came to dinner, what you ate, what the grandchildren told you, the list is endless!

Finished in a wipe clean cover and spiral bound with botanical illustrations by Susan Olgilvy marking the start of each month. 6" wide (15 cm) and just over 9" deep (23.5 cm) and weighing 770 g these are provided in a purpose made delivery sleeve and can be posted at any time (they make great Christmas presents) but can be started at any time of year. Unique to ourselves and not available elsewhere.

£15.00 including P&P (within UK) Additional EU postage £6.00

New Unused Snowdrop Pots

We recycle and reuse the pots in which the snowdrops have been grown, but we do get asked for pots by keen Galanthophiles who might be growing their own snowdrops to sell or give away. We



try not to encourage the growing of snowdrops in pots long term, but of all the pots we have used over the years these seem the most suitable for single snowdrop bulbs. They are 9cm square and 12.5cm deep with good drainage holes and of a robust construction and only available in black!

Sent with any order they will not incur additional postage charges, sent alone please allow £3.00

668-01 Snowdrop Pots

£2.50 for 10

RHS Perfect for Pollinators.

The RHS Perfect for Pollinators mark is only given to plants that support pollinating insects in gardens. Bees, butterflies, moths, hoverflies and many others visit flowers to feed on nectar and pollen; while doing so they transfer pollen and increase seed set and fruit development. Find out more at rhs.org.uk/plants

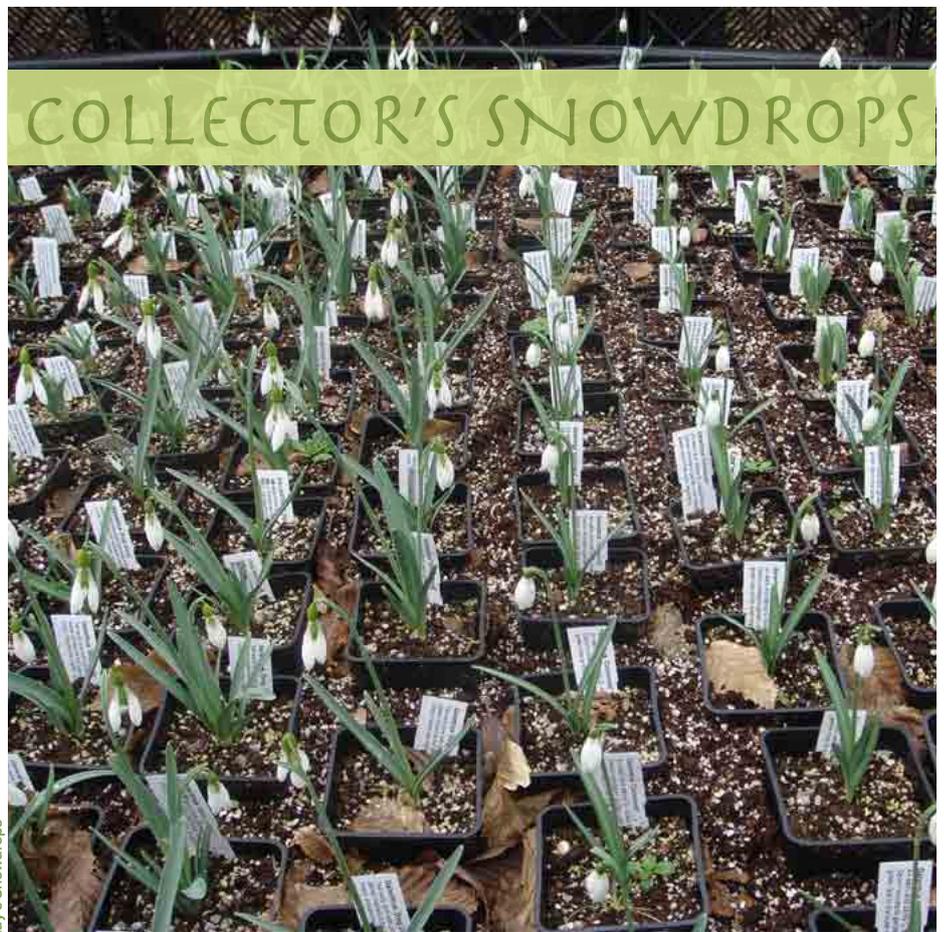


Plants we list which have received the RHS Commendation 'Award of Garden Merit' are now tagged with the trophy symbol. Space does not allow us to add

the hardiness rating – please be aware the award applies to the ease of cultivation, excellence and constitution, but not necessarily hardiness.

The varieties below are nearly all supplied from pots. As they are all grown on the nursery the availability of some of these is limited and orders are taken on a first come first served basis, and if we have to cancel any orders (should the stocks we thought that we had not live up to expectations, this is gardening not engineering) any cancellations start with the last orders to be received. It is however unusual for us to have to cancel orders. Numbers in brackets after the price refer to the page number for a more detailed description in the snowdrop bible.

We believe these to be flowering sized bulbs and in many cases there is a big bulb and an offset all counted as one. Whilst these are pot grown, to save on the postage costs, the plants are 'knocked out' of pots and sent in plastic bags, but this is much kinder on the roots than being dug.



▲ Photo credit: Judy's Snowdrops

ABINGTON GREEN 22-272

Found in Little Abington, Cambridgeshire with a descriptive nod towards the green band that marks the inner segment. It is one of Richard Blakeway-Phillips' finds in the late 1970s with broadly splaying outer segments which open to show the inner marking, bending the arching spathes as they do.

£ 14.00 (180)



AILWYN 22-146

Found first by Richard Nutt at Anglesey Abbey and named after Lord Fairhaven. One of the few almost perfect doubles with tidily packed petals. Early to flower but long lasting.

£22.00 (296)



ALISON HILARY 22-16

Slim outer segments, slightly clawed at the base resulting in an attractively rounded shape, the inner segments are heavily marked at the base in a X or H shape that fades towards the apex. Found at Sutton Court, Herefordshire, the famous Backhouse garden.

£18.00 (248)

ALPINUS BORTKEWITSCHIANUS 22-152

A charming species from a remote and very small area in Southern Russia in Beech forests. It is thought to be of low fertility as it has never been seen to set seed here in Somerset, nevertheless it grows well in our heavy soil in part shade.

£ 15.00 (38)



ANGELIQUE 22-47

Introduced from France in 1999 by Mark Brown. Remarkable in its time for its poculiform attributes (6 petals of nearly equal length). A charming find, the name commemorates a young life cut far too short.

£18.00 (100)



BALLERINA 22-237

Found by Phil Cornish in 1991 at Twigworth, Gloucestershire. A short and very pretty double flowered form, the mature head of petals so full as to form a tutu. Similar in many respects to Mrs Wrightson's Double.

£20.00 (302)



BAXENDALE'S LATE 22-102

One of the last to flower and at its best when almost all the others have faded away. Grow it in a cool spot so that its late flowers are not spoiled by the warmer sun. Some may be dug plants.

£10.00 (142)



BERTRAM ANDERSON 🏆 22-108

Named by Chris Brickell as a posthumous credit to EB Anderson in 1971 from his garden in the Cotswolds, a fine rounded beauty with thickly textured petals.

£12.00 (228)



BARBARA'S DOUBLE 22-140

A mid- late season double with masses of inner segments, jewel like in white and green. Barbara was the daughter of Lady Beatrix Stanley (herself an Iris and a Snowdrop) whose family home was Sibbertoft Manor in Northamptonshire, a garden famous for its bulbs.

£18.00 (289)



BEANY 22-287

From the Oppenheimer estate at White Waltham in Berkshire, this is a glorious large and round form of *G. elwesii* with very bold dark green tips to the outer segments. Rarely offered.

£50.00



BIG EYES 22-222

A hybrid, originally from a remote seedling swarm of *G. nivalis* X *G. plicatus* in Berkshire. Better than Grumpy, this looks more like a clown

£35.00



BYFIELD SPECIAL 22-12

Found by Andy Byfield and bulked up by Michael Baron at Brandy Mount, Alresford in the early 1990s. Outer segments inwardly clawed with a bold inner segment mark on a large well proportioned flower. A much better snowdrop than is widely realised.

£13.00 or £22.00 for 2 (244)



CARYL BARON 22-220

A desirable and new green marked seedling found at Avon Bulbs. The narrow outers are splashed dark green with a dark green inner marking. It is nice that this follows Byfield Special as continues the connection, named as it is after Michael Baron's late wife who was thrilled to be given some when first named.

£35.00



CHILTON FOLIAT 22-288

A chance find in the Wiltshire village of the same name amongst a swarm of *G. nivalis*. This is a relatively late form with extra long outer segments tipped with green giving quite a distinct appearance.

£60.00



BYRKLEY 22-234

From the garden of Isobel Edge's mother in Burton on Trent, Staffordshire this is, when well established, one of the biggest and boldest of the green tipped *G. elwesii* available. When seen as a clump it is quite simply unforgettable.

£45.00



CASTLEGAR 22-57

Very early flowering, so in bloom in mid December here and often with a second scape to follow. Our original stock came from the late Dr Keith Lamb who had obtained them from the owner of the Mahon Estate near Castlegar in Galway.

£25.00 (230)



DAVID BAKER 22-255

Late flowering with outer segments that flare slightly at the tip so their shape of the flower is more pagoda like, the outers are marked with green at the tip when established. Commemorating a wonderful plantsman and husband to the irreplaceable Ruby.

£22.00 (277)



DAVID SHACKLETON 22-151

Listed ages ago by us as Shackleton this now appears rather closer to the top of the alphabetic list. A late flowering snowdrop with long, seemingly quite polished outer petals, long and inwardly curved so quite boat shaped with the stripes showing below an olive green ovary.

£15.00 (199)



DODO NORTON 22-273

Short in stature, but large hearted with a disproportionately big flower to match. It was named in 2000 in recognition of the wife of the then owner of the Margery Fish garden at East Lambrook where it was found.

£20.00 (231)



EA BOWLES 22-275

One of the very best new snowdrops of recent years. This is a huge poculiform *G. plicatus* found at Myddleton House. A fitting plant to commemorate a true lover of plants at a place where he lived all his life.

£50.00



DEVON MARBLE 22-91

Found on the Delamore Estate near Cornwood this is a form of *navalis* with green streaked inner segments, the streaking a reminder of fine Italian marble.

£25.00



DRAGONFLY 22-279

From the wonderful Veronica Cross who also gave us Wasp. This is bigger and more substantial with very long outer segments and a lovely hanging character on long pedicels.

£75.00



ERMINE LACE 22-268

One of the best hybrid doubles from the collection of Hector Harrison, a man who was also well known for his *Diascias*. A vigorous plant with an unusually waisted X marking on the inner segment, rarely offered for sale.

£40.00 (300)



FANNY 22-189

Smooth long outer segment faintly tipped in green at the tips, some plants here produced three scapes. And at the RHS February show in 2015 the person for whom it was named, noticing some of her namesake on the sales table, introduced herself memorably, "I see that you have my Fanny".

£20.00 (278)



FIELDGATE FORTE 22-190

A seedling of *G. Modern Art* raised by Colin Mason in the 1990s. Called Forte for its ability to regularly produce two flower stems. It has green staining at the tips and base of the outer segments and dark green inner segments.

£25.00 (278)



FLY FISHING 22-178

Originally a seedling selected at Avon Bulbs over 10 years ago, noticeable for its incredibly long and slender pedicel, perhaps longer than any other snowdrop and early flowering too.

£23.00

FORGE DOUBLE 22-280

Selected by Richard Britten from his garden in Suffolk this is a very late flowering *G. nivalis* hybrid.

£20.00 (301)



FENSTEAD END 22-103

Found by Chris Grey Wilson in the village of the same name in Suffolk, an early flowering form with noticeably upright foliage and the inner segments nearly covered in green.

£15.00 (182)



FIELDGATE SUPERB 22-168

A late flowering form that has broad outer petals, clawed at the tip to provide body and curvature, the inner markings a green X, the bottom half usually solid green, the upper part fading towards the apex.

£20.00 (252)



GABRIEL 22-221

An early (December) flowering form of *G. elwesii monostictus* which was identified at Avon Bulbs in the 1980s. The name comes from its habit of raising its outer segments when brought into the warm, reminding one of the angel's wings.

£13.00 (174)



GALADRIEL

22-167

A late flowering shapely flower of hybrid origin. Selected at the Beth Chatto garden near Colchester by David Ward and named after Tolkein's 'Lady of the Wood' in the mid 1990s. Very broad leaved with the inner segment marked with a broad Y.

£15.00



GODFREY OWEN

22-238

Six outer segments of the same length immediately point to this being different, with six shorter inner segments usually marked by two small green dots. Quite a leafy plant, as many *G. elwesii* are, named after the late Margaret Owen's husband in 1996.

£30.00 (205)



GREEN BRUSH

22-156

Big flowered with a squareness to the flower that is distinctive with the tips of the outer segments strongly marked in green as though dipped in paint.

£15.00



GLORIA

22-135

From the ruined garden near the Jardin d'Angelique in Normandy this is a particularly elegant form of *G. nivalis*, near poculiform with occasionally just a hint of green on one or two segments and often an apricot hue close under the ovary.

£22.00



GRAVE CONCERN

22-284

Suffolk found, as are many of the best snowdrops, this hybrid always shows two scapes. The flowers are of perfect proportion washed with green on the outers like an emerald scallop shell.

£60.00



GREEN COMET

22-256

From John Morley's collection, a hybrid with very large flowers on a long pedicel, similar indeed to those of *G. Comet*, but with unusually broad green leaves.

£20.00



HERCULE 22-148

A selection made by Mark Brown in France from a batch of bulbs sourced in England. It is a very good upstanding early flower with a stately presence and faintly green tipped outer segments.

£20.00



JESSICA 22-01

Found by Phil Cornish near Wroxall, Warwickshire in 1997. A fine form of *G. elwesii* with sharply defined green markings on the outer segments and a long green ovary and broad, arching foliage. Phil named it after his wife.

£18.00 (191)



JONATHAN 22-258

A selection of *G. elwesii* with handsome rounded segments which show, when first open, a strange creamy glow. Best in winter sun and summer shade.

£22.00 (202)



JADE 22-173

Originating from a swarm of naturalised *G. nivalis* in Gloucestershire. This bulb stood out from its sisters with glowing green splashed outer segments.

£30.00



JIMMY PLATT 22-269

We met Jimmy Platt in 1989 very soon after Chris took on Avon Bulbs and before we really had a serious snowdrop collection so we lodged the bulb he gave us with friends where it languished for years before being recovered. Late flowering.

£12.00



KERSEN 22-249

The name is descriptive of the inner green marking and is Dutch for Cherries, and indeed the outline describes a pair of green cherries on their stalks above the apical notch. A smaller neat plant, rarely, if ever, offered.

£20.00 (81)

Photo credit: Judy's Snowdrops



KILDARE 22-149
An Irish customer picking one of these up in February at the RHS show was heard to remark "the greener the better". These derive from the emerald isle with the outer segments washed in a pale ghostly green. Found by Ruby and David Baker on a trip there in 1995.

£15.00 (279)



LOUISE ANN BROMLEY 22-129
This may still have the record for the largest or longest petals of any snowdrop and is named for the sister of famous galanthophile David Bromley in Shropshire. One of the very best selections of *G. elwesii* with the typically wide grey leaves.

£22.00



MADELAINE 22-172
A rival to Wendy's Gold and in some ways better as this selection makes good sized clumps from which the bold yellow markings on the inner segments seem to glow in the low February sunshine.

£25.00



LITTLE BEN 22-157
A fine, large flowered form with rounded petals on a flower that bends the long arching pedicel.

£12.00 (234)



MARJORIE BROWN 22-203
A late flowering form of *G. elwesii* discovered by Ruby Baker in 1999. Quite unusually wide of leaf, and they are very glaucous and distinctly bluish, the flowers are large and late to emerge.

£10.00 (176)

▲ Photo credit: Clive Nichols



MARGERY FISH 22-213
Narrow petalled with all the petals being washed in pale green this is a distinctive and slightly awkward looking plant with the pedicel held erect resulting in a flower that does not hang. It is overtopped by an exaggerated curving spathe. Found in The Ditch at East Lambrook in 1987.

£35.00 (108)



▲ Photo credit: Judy's Snowdrops

MELANIE BROUGHTON 22-33
A mid to late season bloomer with tall sculptured flowers. One of the very best hybrids to come out of Anglesey Abbey in Cambridgeshire and named after the daughter of Lord Fairhaven.

£10.00 (266)



MILLER'S LATE 22-118
One of the last snowdrops to flower. The hugely long flower is not supported by a long stem so can look compressed, but is handsomely topped, like an overly elaborate fascinator, by the curling spathe arching close to the ovary.

£12.00 (176)



MARLIE RAPHAEL 22-259
From the garden at Kingston Bagpuize House in Oxfordshire and found in 2000 this is a form of *G. elwesii* with very long outer segments tipped with green splashes, the inner segments are marked in a pale olive-green.

£45.00 (185)



MERLIN ♡ 22-30
The inner segments are nearly completely covered in green and with its short pedicel anchoring the ovary quite closely to the upright spathe the flower gains a rather jaunty look being lodged at a slight angle.

£12.00 (260)



MODERN ART 22-34
The seemingly stiffly held outer segments are marked with green at the tip, the inner segments are quite heavily marked in green.

£12.00 (280)



MOORTOWN MIGHTY 22-227

A mighty seedling from the snowdrop rich garden (on sandy soil) of David Bromley, this is a *G. plicatus* hybrid with extra large and showy flowers, flowering early in the season this is a must have plant.

£40.00



MRS MACNAMARA 22-35

Very early flowering indeed, often in early January with good upright flower stems sporting long pale leaves. The flowers are pretty and simple. Mrs Macnamara was Dylan Thomas' mother in law.

£12.00 (177)



ONE DROP OR TWO? 22-250

A charming snowdrop where mature bulbs will throw two flowers from each pedicel, doubly serendipitous - and an explanation for the name. The flowers are most distinct for their dark green inner markings.

£25.00



MORETON MILL 22-260

From the garden of Eddie Roberts in Shropshire, this a tall and strong poculiform, all white with 6 even outer segments.

£30.00



NATALIE GARTON

22-43

A *G. elwesii* hybrid with semi-double flowers. A lovely rounded, thick petalled flower named after the late Natalie Garton of Ramsden in Oxfordshire, who distributed it from her beautiful garden before her death in 1996.

£14.00 or £26.00 for 2



PEG SHARPLES 22-142

Evidently raised from seed provided by EB Anderson to Peg Sharples in Cumbria, but only named some 10 years later. It is late flowering with the outer segments on the flowers long and elegant, with a diffuse pale green wash over the inner segment. The leaves are quite narrow and grey green.

£12.00 (258)



POLAR BEAR 22-270

These form enormous bulbs when dormant, we have had to pot them into 1 litre pots rather than our standard snowdrop pots. The flowers, with rounded segments are held on very short pedicels so seem to look outwards, very late flowering and quite charming.

£15.00



PUCK 22-92

From the same Devonian wood that produced Devon Marble, Fuzz and Cornwood this charming form of *G. nivalis* exhibits three extra haphazardly arranged 'petals' over and above the 3 outer and 3 inner segments, it is as if that mischievous Fairy had been up to his tricks.

£18.00



PHILIPPE ANDRE MEYER 22-229

Mark Brown's discovery, and named for a generous previous employer. This is a plicatus hybrid and one of the best Tnym type seedlings. Showy and vigorous in the ground, though quite short.

£60.00



PRIDE O'THE MILL 22-159

From the Mill House garden owned by Daphne Chappell in the early 1990s, a *G. gracilis* hybrid, possibly with *G. plicatus*. The inner segments are darkly marked, especially at the tip and they flare outwards. The outer segments are thick and rounded under a yellowish ovary. Early flowering.

£15.00 (254)



REVEREND HAILSTONE 22-179

A majestic tall and early form of *G. elwesii* from Anglesey Abbey and often at its best by the end of January with stems sometimes over a foot high.

£12.00



Photo credit: Alan Street

RON GINN'S BYZANTINUS 22-271

Given to us by Ray Cobb who had it himself from Ron Ginn. It is a mid to late season flowerer marked on the flower like G. Lapwing, but a month later. Easy and vigorous, increasing well into tight floriferous clumps.

£25.00



SPRITE 22-197

A seedling found here on the nursery about a decade ago and twin scaled to increase the stock from a singleton. All green inners are revealed when the outers rise, these have 5 or 6 green lines on the outside surface for added appeal.

£18.00



STARLING 22-208

A seedling from the copse at Avon Bulbs, possibly G. elwesii x Hill Poe? Long pointed outer segments on a flower that hangs on a very short pedicel and consequently one sees into, the dark green marked inner segments appear quite star-like. Very long lasting in flower.

£22.00



SENTINEL 22-150

A large flowered hybrid with bold upright blooms in mid season, the inners showing two distinct areas of green.

£14.00 (270)



ST PANCRAS 22-58

A double, probably G. elwesii x G. nivalis fl.pl. found in 1994 in North Somerset by Alan Street. Greyish leaved with heavy headed flowers with long outers that clasp the flower, the centre of which shows three long inner segments that protrude, somewhat fang like.

£20.00 (305)



SUTTON COURT 22-211

Found in a Herefordshire garden, this is a giant snowdrop when established with strong pedigree. Its strong upright stems give it a very erect stance.

£15.00 (242)



THE WIZARD 22-209

Another seedling found in the copse at Avon Bulbs with stunningly green marked flowers, inside and out! All those who see it fall under its spell.

£35.00



TRYMLET 22-198

A wonderful green tipped selection, this time from Kathleen Beddington. It grows well, and with the vigour seen in all the Trym hybrids it soon makes a very showy clump.

£20.00



UNDER CHERRY PLUM 22-285

A touch of mystery surrounds this snowdrop. Found under an old cherry plum on the nursery boundary was it planted or was it a seedling there? A hybrid with vigour and extra segments plus a bold inner marking make this a snowdrop to covet, as did Matt Bishop when he first saw it.

£80.00



TRIMMER 22-217

Unusually flared outer segments marked with a bold green flash are features of this desirable early flowering form.

£30.00



VERONICA CROSS 22-292

Full of superlatives. One of the best new snowdrop hybrids to come from one of the best snowdrop gardens. A new *G. gracilis* x *G. Trym* hybrid which has amazing green marked segments. "To die for" is one of Mrs Cross' trademark sayings and all who see it do want it.

£120.00 (One per customer)



TRUMPS 22-164

A stunning and vigorous hybrid first spotted in John Morley's garden by Matt Bishop. Early to flower with bright green outer segment and increasing freely. One of the best green-tipped snowdrops and a must have variety for every snowdrop garden.

£24.00 (283)



TRYZM 22-265

Yet another self sown seeding at Avon Bulbs, this time under some larch but not far from both *G. Trym* and *G. rizehensis*, hence the name. A dainty and delightful hybrid with matt green leaves and boldly marked outer segments.

£60.00



VERTIGO 22-121

Somewhat similar to *G. Viridapice* which many will know well, but the flower on these is held between the 'rabbit's ears' that are the spathe and so initially face upwards, hence the dizzying naming. As the flower matures it does get released.

£30.00

Photo credit: Matt Bishop

Mail Order for Spring 2017

Snowdrops & Leucojum only, but if ordering these you may also order cards, gloves, pots and books on this form

Office use only:

Date received:

Order No:

**Avon Bulbs Ltd • Burnt House Farm • Mid Lambrook
South Petherton • Somerset • TA13 5HE**

Title: Mr Mrs Miss Other _____

Name: _____

House Name/No: _____

Street: _____

Town: _____

County: _____

Country: _____ Postcode _____

Contact Number: _____

Tel: _____ Mob: _____

Email address: _____

Other Delivery Instructions: _____

Is this an order for collection?

Is it a gift?

If you are likely to be out during the day, please suggest where the parcel should be left or who else might accept delivery.

If you want your order to be sent as a gift to someone else (invoice to you), tick the box and put the recipient's name and address and postcode in the space provided to the right.

If this is your first order with us please tell us how you heard about us, or where you obtained our catalogue?

Payment:

Orders are not accepted without payment except by prior agreement.

Please include payment or please charge my Visa/Switch/Mastercard account.

Cheque enclosed Yes, value £ _____, or

Card No.

Valid from date / Card expiry date /

Security code (last three digits on reverse of card)

Signature _____

Snowdrop Greeting Cards

especially popular at this time of year, or very suitable as Condolence cards ... stock up now !! **Only £1.00 each**, or less if you buy 5 at a time.

The cards are all A6 (6"x4") on good quality card and commercially printed, blank inside for your own message. They all come individually sleeved with a good quality white envelope.

There are two 'composite' cards each with 15 small pictures (all named), these are our Mastercard and Top of the Drops cards. All the individual pictures used on these are also available as individual cards (as stocks allow), so there are presently 32 cards to choose from in total!

'Mastercard'

1	6	11
2	7	12
3	8	13
4	9	14
5	10	15



'Top of the Drops'

16	21	26
17	22	27
18	23	28
19	24	29
20	25	30

'Mastercard'

- 1 Angelique
- 2 Benhall Beauty
- 3 Highdown
- 4 Mrs Thompson
- 5 Sandersii
- 6 Art Nouveau
- 7 Comet
- 8 Lapwing
- 9 Robin Hood
- 10 Sickle
- 11 Augustus
- 12 George Elwes
- 13 Magnet
- 14 S. Arnott
- 15 Straffan

'Top of the Drops'

- 16 Alan's Treat
- 17 Cowhouse Green
- 18 Ecusson D'Or
- 19 Jade
- 20 Spindleston Surprise
- 21 Blewbury Tart
- 22 Diggory
- 23 Heffalump
- 24 June Boardman
- 25 Titanic
- 26 Blonde Inge
- 27 Ding Dong
- 28 Irish Green
- 29 South Hayes
- 30 Trym

Cards can be ordered post free with an order of plants, or if ordered alone please add £3.00 P&P to your order.

Cards with 15 pictures:

'Mastercard' (as shown top)

£1.00

'Top of the Drops' (as shown bottom)

£1.00

Individual cards:

All the smaller images are available as cards at full card size, please order these by name.

£1.00

any 5
cards
£4.50



DUG SNOWDROPS

This section includes the snowdrops that we supply as dug plants (as opposed to plants that have been grown for sale in pots) These are therefore grown and produced in a more natural manner (through splitting of clumps and from offsets) this is a less expensive way of producing good plants and as a consequence these are often considerably less expensive.

They include those that we think that all beginners should start with (our Foundation plants, marked within a light yellow highlight box) those are often great plants that even experienced snowdroppers cannot ever have enough of.

All these snowdrops are supplied 'in the green' (which means having been dug in growth, possibly still in flower, packed and posted rapidly with the roots protected in coir in a plastic bag) They will need replanting in the ground soon after their arrival. You will receive planting instructions and a guide to the basics with your order.



ATKINSII  22-09

Its exact origin may be something of a mystery, but this is one of the first hybrid forms to flower, still one of the finest and best garden-worthy snowdrops – it is sterile and very vigorous with elegant long outer segments.

£12.00 for 3 (225)



BLEWBURY TART 22-18

Found as a single clump, an oddity amongst other single and double *G. nivalis*, in Blewbury churchyard, this sterile double form opens nearly flat revealing nearly all green inners. A bit different but a strong grower.

£7.00 or £20.00 for 3 (120)



CHEDWORTH 22-74

Found in Gloucestershire by Daphne Chappell in Helen Milford's garden in the same village, reckoned to be rather similar to Straffan in looks but without the second flowering scape and even later flowering, in our experience more vigorous and easily one of the best to spread itself quickly.

£12.00 for 3 (80)



CURLY 22-201

One of the later flowering hybrids with pale green tips to the outer segments with a broad X on the inner segment with the arms of the X fading towards the ovary. And the name? That is due to the foliage being unusually arched.

£10.00 (277)



ELFIN 22-83

Upward facing whilst still in bud which is different, this is a small flowered with quite a broad spathe, the whole effect is really quite elvish. Whilst small they are vigorous and increase to fine clumps. Originally found by Phil Cornish.

£10.00 (107)



ELWESII MONOSTICTUS  22-21

This is a wonderful, easy and vigorous single marked *G. elwesii* which might seed interesting hybrids if grown near other types. Pale vigorous leaves.

£5.00 (35)



GREENFIELDS 22-71

Another good Irish snowdrop, this one being mid-late season flowering and a hybrid so is very vigorous and soon makes fine showy clumps.

£12.00 (232)



HONEYSUCKLE COTTAGE 22-134

From Sally Pasmore's charming country garden, this is a tall, early, vigorous *G. nivalis* x *G. plicatus* hybrid, bolt upright and showy. Vigorous and clump forming.

£8.00 or £20.00 for 3



LADY BEATRIX STANLEY 🏆 22-25
Circulated in the 1950s under a different name this was officially renamed by Richard Nutt in 1981. A neat double flower seemingly in the grip of the longer fang-like outer petals. Smaller statured but increasing when left alone.
£6.00 or £16.00 for 3 (296)



LITTLE MAGNET 22-132
When first found on thin chalky soil, the small clump was well named, moved to Somerset from Blewbury, it grew somewhat. But it still has an exceptionally long pedicel.
£8.00 or £15.00 for 2 (234)



LORD MONOSTICTUS 22-13
This fabulous form falls under the *G. elwesii monostictus* heading, but it is a very distinct and superior form that we have been selling as a separate item for some years. The bulbs are large, the foliage blue-green and very bold, the flowers substantial and well shaped, we think it well deserving of its elevated title, though the nomenclatural purists hate the irreverent name.
£10.00



MAGNET 🏆 22-27
An instantly iconic snowdrop. The distinctive feature being the long pedicel (the spur holding the flower to the stem) which allows the flower to dangle and sway with great grace. This has to be one of the best snowdrops of all, pretty, mobile and increasing readily from offsets but setting no viable seed.
£6.00 or £16.00 for 3 (235)



MELVILLEI (OF HORT) 22-158
Presumably from Scotland originally to commemorate David Melville, gardener at Dunrobin Castle. This came to us from Richard Nutt, famous for changing the name of a plant from year to year! It is a very early selection with very long ovary, flowering even before *G. Atkinsii* here. Vigorous.
£6.00 or £16.00 for 3 (82)



MIDWINTER 22-28
A very early form of *G. elwesii* which (here in Somerset) is regularly at its best in the first half of January. Huge handsome flowers and typically broad glaucous blue green foliage. Sold (in error!) by us as Maidwell L years ago.
£12.00



PLICATUS 🏆 22-46
First described as occurring on the Crimean peninsula in 1808. A very broad-leaved form of the species plant with dainty rounded flowers. It is very vigorous (although there are fewer flowers and more foliage), well suited to spreading through wilder places seeding freely. Bulbs of these are more variable in size and some may not have evidence of having flowered.
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3 (22)



RIZEHENSIS 22-38

An early flowering species from northern Turkey where it grows in shade amongst hazel. Often at its best at the end of January it is a dainty snowdrop with matt green leaves showing a faint central stripe.

£8.00 (50)



S. ARNOTT 22-40

The trump card in the Giant Snowdrop Company's list in the 1950s, but still a snowdrop that can infect the innocent with Galanthomania, such is its magic and appeal. Tall, thick petalled, very white, scented and vigorous, a superlative snowdrop.

£13.00 for 3 (238)



SALLY PASMORE 22-60

An elegant and well poised snowdrop, rather like the owner of the Somerset garden in which it was born. Long refined outer segments and usually with two scapes above broad plicate leaves.

£10.00 (157)



STRAFFAN 22-42

Sometimes the best tunes are played on the oldest fiddles, and this reliable, late flowering plant probably from the Crimea taken first to Ireland then on to England, two stems from the largest bulbs, giving a white carpet en masse.

£6.00 or £16.00 for 3 (241)



VIRIDAPICE 22-44

Found almost a century ago in the north of Holland, old hat maybe but still one of the strongest growing of the green and emerald tipped snowdrops.

£6.00 or £16.00 for 3 (108)

LEUCOJUM



VERNUM 106-04

Almost impossible to successfully establish as dry bulbs, these are supplied 'in the green' like the snowdrops and seem to grow away perfectly thereafter. When established the leaves emerge early through the soil surface, often in the autumn. Best in moisture retentive soil, shaded in summer.

February/March 6" (15cm)
£6.50 for 3

Plants and bulbs to flower this Summer

From here on please use the order form on P49/50

ACTAEA



NELSONII 52-05

Ivory and green flowers face upward around a tall raceme, opening from the bottom of the spike, the waxy flowers strongly almond scented. Attractive glossy succulent foliage through much of the year. Unusually one of the only flowers where the petals act like stigma in the pollen transfer process (check on wikipedia!). Big pale green bulbs.

June/July 30" (75cm)
£5.50

SIMPLEX BRUNETTE 90-01

Lovely dark leaved plants (as long as they grow in some direct light) but also shade lovers which love heavy moist soils, so quite a change from our usual fare that requires "well drained" soils. They used to be called the Cimicifuga and plenty of our older readers will recognise that name better. The flowers appear as tall white scented plumes in late summer and early autumn and we think that these will all flower in 2017 having been grown in 1 litre pots in 2016. Allow 24" (60 cm) spread



Sept/Oct 60" (1.5m)
£8.00

ALBUCA

Two members of the same family, although at first glance one could miss that they are so closely related. They derive from the Eastern Cape in South Africa. The larger of these two is a very fleshy leaved, big bulbed plant, almost a succulent, which tends to grow half in and half out of the ground. It will survive some frost but being semi evergreen needs protection in anything but the most favoured spot outside. The second is much smaller and completely deciduous so can be easily overwintered and stored as a dry bulb or left dry in their pots to overwinter.



SHAWII 52-06

Flowers the colour of ripe bananas, all facing down and after flowering they set a profusion of seed from which you can easily increase your stock. The foliage is narrow and minutely toothed, feeling quite rough to the touch. A fun plant for a patio, brought in to winter inside when dormant. Chestnut sized bulbs.

June/July 24" (60cm)
£5.50 for 3

ALLIUMS

The more typical and familiar bulbous Alliums were planted in the autumn and will have spent the winter growing roots and readying themselves to flower in the late spring. These spring planted forms have no real bulb and are more herbaceous in their appearance and flower later in the summer so they can be divided and replanted safely in the spring. Sun lovers, as are nearly all Alliums and a magnet for the insects on a warm day.



ANGULOSUM 153-28

Bright green and glossy leaved for most of the year. Pale lilac flowered in late summer and increasing to tight clumps in time which visibly shimmer and hum on a warm late summer day when beset by feeding insects. Probably the most butterfly friendly plant we grow. This is a more compact clone.



July/August 12" (30cm)
£6.00 for 3 (small clumps)



ANGULOSUM (TALL FORM) 153-64

Standing twice as tall when in flower, and they seem to produce a later flush of flowers on stems that are taller than those of the first flowers. The foliage is broader and taller as well.



August 24" (60cm)
£4.00 (small clumps)



LENKORANICUM 153-21

A quirky wispy plant that is native to Azerbaijan and reportedly only discovered in 1987, it increases steadily both vegetatively and from seed in a sunny bed in well drained soils. It lasts ages in flower and in the second half of the year seems always to be in flower.

Summer 12" (30cm)
£4.00 for 3



SENESENS SSP. GLAUCUM 153-30

Summer flowering plants with ground hugging blue-green foliage with twisted leaves which soon mats the ground. Flowering for ages at which point it is difficult to see the leaves for the amount of flower, small tight lilac pompoms adored by the insects. Easy beneficial plants for sunny conditions. Plants from division.



Summer 12" (30cm)
£4.00 (small clumps)



TUBEROSUM 153-38

Wiry stems support white flowers marked with a pink midrib flowering in the second half of summer. In flower for ages and hugely attractive to lots of beneficial insects. Tough, wiry stemmed and increasing, all parts very garlic scented and also called Chinese chives.



Aug/Oct 24" (60cm)
£6.50 for 3 (small clumps)

ALSTROEMERIA

I claim that florists would be at a loss to find an alternative to Alstroemeria which they use over many months of the year. The many forms that they sell are hybrids, various crosses between winter growing Chilean and summer flowering Brazilian species. Those we sell are much simpler, though in British gardens are more successful in a sheltered sunny site. Whilst they have a reputation for being difficult to transplant these young plants seem to grow reasonably easily, it is the old woody tubers that tend to be difficult and germination of old seed can be tricky. The A. ligtu forms will have been potted in the late autumn and each pot contains a number of tubers, the flowers of which will all vary in colour. So each pot will probably provide a mixture of colours. They tend to grow away early in some protection here so they may appear a bit 'leggy' on arrival, but plant them deeply, hardening them off gently if the weather is still cold.



LIGTU HYBRID 4-04

These plants, which originate from Chile, could be mixes of apricot, cream, pink, yellow or occasionally white in lovely combinations. The leaves on all Alstroemeria are resupinate – twisting upside down, so what appears as the upper leaf surface is actually the lower one. Plant 5" deep, on a gravelly base.

June/July 24-36" (60-90cm)
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3 (pots)



LIGTU FRANCES 4-08

The emerging leaves are strongly yellow margined from emergence through the early spring so clumps of these are outstanding for their foliage alone early in the year. The flowers are all the same, an attractive pale biscuit pink.

June/July 24-36" (60-90cm)
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3 (pots)



PSITTACINA (PULCHELLA) 4-06

A Brazilian species, which in Britain flowers very late in the summer, with green and red flowers. It is reputed to be slightly more tender than A. ligtu but emerging later in the winter it is easier to mulch. Never very happy on very limey soils. From division.

Aug/Oct 18-24" (45-60cm)
£4.50 or £12.50 for 3

ANEMONE

Anemone japonica hybrids

Everyone knows them and all, except for people who have planted them previously in the wrong place (and have found that they are difficult to remove) love them. For late summer colour and dogged persistence they take a lot of beating and in this part of Somerset look particularly gorgeous planted against the Hamstone that so many older houses are built of. Their naming, and the distinction between the types is complicated and even impenetrable. The important features are colour, height and flowering time, even amongst the doubles there is variation between the numbers of petals on the same plants.

All these supplied as 9cm pots



RICHARD AHRENS 157-144

Pink flowered, mostly single but occasional extra petals occur on some flowers, all fading to a blush pink as the season progresses. Very pretty and trouble free.

Aug/Oct 36" (90cm)
£5.50



QUEEN CHARLOTTE 🏆 157-141

Large pink saucer shaped flowers made up of many petals on thin wiry stems. Very suitable for sun or part shade and sometimes found growing in the poorest of soils. Great for late summer colour at the back of the border.

Aug/Oct 60" (1.5m)
£5.50



WILD SWAN 157-35

First identified by Elizabeth Macgregor on her nursery and thought to be of hybrid origin. In flower intermittently from June to late October with compact crowns, it looks rather like a short early flowering Japanese Anemone, but far more controllable! For sun or partial shade with broad white flowers, the backs of which are washed in blue, showing more strongly when the light is lower and the flower less open. Allow 18" (45cm) spread. Well established plants in 2 litre pots sent out in growth.

June-Oct 18" (45cm)
£9.50



BLUE BARLOW 95-02

Deep purple – blue flowered.

▲ Photo credit: GAP Images



WHIRLWIND 157-145

Double petalled in white and seeming to glow on account of the number of flowers and their whiteness so very illuminating of darker areas, though it will also thrive in full sun.

Aug/Oct 34" (80cm)
£6.00

AQUILEGIA

Well known Cottage garden plants native to Europe and also known as Columbines. They love sun or partial shade in any half decent soil and tend to be promiscuous in their habits so try to dead-head these plants after flowering to avoid them being overcome by their offspring before time. These are all supplied as growing plants in 9 cm pots, ready to be planted out on receipt. Make allowance for them to reach about 28-36" (70-90cm) tall and plant them about 18" (45cm) apart (probably in association with other spring flowering bulbs). They flower in the early summer and fit in perfectly with the late spring bulbs such as Alliums and dwarf Gladioli as well as the herbaceous Paeonies. The double petalled forms have flowers that are quite clematis like. They all have a long vase life and are unpalatable to deer and rabbits. Nora Barlow was Charles Darwin's grand-daughter but the plant long predates her. She lived on land bequeathed to form New Hall College in Cambridge.

All the same price £4.50 each



NORA BARLOW 95-03

These were named by Alan Bloom after seed provided by Nora Barlow provided Blooms with their commercial strains of Aquilegia in the 1960s. Pink and green with a pale ruff.

▲ Photo credit: GAP Images



Other Anemones:

RIVULARIS 157-29

A beautiful summer flowering plant for a sunny border with branching stems tipped by white flowers with blue stamens, silvery blue on the backs of the petals. Allow 2' (60cm) spread in sun or part sun in reasonable soil. From 1 litre pots.

June 24" (60cm)
£5.00



BLACK BARLOW 95-01

Pom-pom like heads formed of masses of spurless flowers in a deep purple-black with fern-like green foliage in a neat mound.



RUBY PORT 95-04

Deeply burgundy, fading to purple.

▲ Photo credit: GAP Images



WILLIAM GUINNESS 95-05
Dark purple outer petals ring the shorter central petals which are white tipped, also known as the Magpie Columbine.

ASTRANTIA

Found wild in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus these are really herbaceous perennials and should be familiar to many as 'Pin-cushion' plants. In reasonable soil, either in full sun or part shade they produce mounds of soft lobed foliage with taller flower stems in a variety of hues. They are hungry feeders and slow to form big clumps. Good with Alliums, Actea and Heuchera for summer borders. Cut them back by two thirds after their first flowering each year to encourage a second flush late in the same year. Useful cut flower, with an unusual fragrance. All these are supplied as divisions of larger field grown clumps.



CLARET 1-02
Dark flowered and dark leaved.
May/July 24" (60cm) £6.00



GILL RICHARDSON 1-08
Seemingly darker and tidier in its form and in all its parts and appearing tighter in their clumps for all that.

May/July 18" (45 cm) £6.00



MAJOR 1-04
A large flowered form, the individual heads are bigger than a 50p piece (officially the 'petals' surrounding the flower are just bracts). Green and white with pinkish highlights.



May/July 24" (60cm) £6.00



ROMA 1-07
A very lovely form with soft pale pink heads which are produced in profusion. A neat plant that remains in flower for ages, one of the very best.



May/ July 20" (50cm) £6.00



SUPERSTAR 1-09
All white flowered, with green detailing on the surrounding bracts. Bob Brown suggests that this is possibly an improvement on 'Shaggy' which was a plant Margery Fish made famous. They seem to flower very late and the advice (above) for a second flush of flowers may not work with these.



May/July 15" (40cm) £6.00

BEGONIA



BENITochiba 9-08

With a bit of luck and a sheltered situation these might be hardy, they are officially endorsed to about -5 C but it would be safer to keep them frost free over winter. They could be grown as a houseplant in the winter to be placed outside in the summer where they have tidy, deeply lobed purple leaves marked in pink and olive. There are sparse pink flowers late in the year, but it is the leaf that is so interesting and dramatic. Spreading to about 18" (45cm). Plants in 1.4 litre pots

Summer 24" (60cm) £5.50



SUTHERLANDII 9-07

Small leaved and small flowered, a very undemanding Begonia that could be used for a number of situations - in hanging baskets as it trails prettily, or in pots as it also forms a stem if it can, or it could be used as a houseplant. Lots of people tell us that they, or a friend, had it for years and formed quite an attachment to their Begonia and having eventually lost it have not been able to find it for sale again. Not hardy for the garden in the winter, but dried off in the autumn and kept dry for the winter they will gradually get larger as the tubers increase in size each year. Small tubers which have all flowered in 2016.

Summer £3.50

BESSERA



ELEGANS

3-04

Conical orange-red flowers which have a passing resemblance to a Fuchsia flower. Creamy coloured within, with long paler protruding stamens. The foliage is long and needle like. They originate from southern USA and Mexico so require a dry winter's rest without any frost, but being winter dormant that is not too difficult as many bulbs require the same. Five of these are enough for a 6" (15cm) pot in good free draining compost placed outside in late March to flower in the late summer.

Aug/Sept 18" (45cm)
£4.60 for 5

BOMAREA



HIRTELLA (EDULIS)

10-05

Climbing plants that grow enthusiastically to flower for a long time in the summer months. Hardy in the south of England we think, but happy in a large pot so could be brought into more shelter in the winter. They are related to the Alstroemeria, this species is widespread in Central America as far south as Argentina and the Caribbean and probably varies considerably in that vast range. Orange green and pink flowers in clusters.

Summer, climbing to 5' (1.5m)
£5.50

BRUNNERA



MACROPHYLLA

JACK FROST

18-04

Incredibly useful in many of our spring displays this plant has architectural merit. Its lovely 'crazed' broad leaves, pale green and iced in white overlap attractively and cover the ground well and then the sprays of tiny bright blue flowers in the late spring add a smokey haze. We use them to soften up the more upright displays of regimental looking bulbs on our displays. They are members of the Bugloss family, enjoying slightly damper conditions in part shade. Well established in 1 litre pots.

April/May 18" (45cm)
£5.50 or £15.00 for 3

CANNA



IRIDIFLORA

(X EHEMANII)

7-04

A big bold plant with broad deep jungle green foliage and carmine flowers. We grow them in a high roofed unheated greenhouse in the ground and divide them biennially. Dormant in winter they will need some protection then, but started off in the warm and put outside in June they grow very fast to make very impressive plants by the summer's end.

Summer-Autumn 6' plus (1.8 m+)
£6.50

CAUTLEYA



SPICATA ROBUSTA

154-04

Interesting Himalayan members of the ginger family, closely related to the Roscoea and Hedychium which are listed later. Hardy here with no winter protection, but as they are winter dormant they are easy to mulch in colder parts if necessary. They would prefer some shade in summer, scorching sun on their broad leaves is not to their liking.

Yellow and orange flowers highlighted by the bright red bracts within which they are held. Bright green foliage. Happy in damp part shade, as they are at Rosemoor in Devon growing among ferns. Divisions from plants grown in the open.

Summer 18" (45cm)
£5.50 or £15.00 for 3

CRINUM



POWELLII ALBUM

14-05

Far prettier (to my eyes) with flared white trumpets in the summer over soft green, wide strappy leaves these are taller, more graceful and softer than their pink flowered cousins. But they do become big plants in the course of time and love the extra heat that might come from being planted up against a south facing wall. Big bulbed but only available in limited numbers

Summer 3' (90cm)
£6.00

CROCOSMIA

Summer stalwarts in the garden, and available in a range of reds, marmalade orange and yellow flowers which the butterflies love. They will not flourish for long on thin dry soil; plant them quite deeply where they receive full sun and summer moisture. You should be prepared to split them up and move them on every 3-4 years, it rejuvenates them and without this attention they can go into a decline.



EMILY MCKENZIE 15-04

Large burnt-orange flowers with a prominent chocolate blotch which are held relatively close to the stem above dark erect foliage. Much later into leaf and hence still dormant as small wizened bulbs in the spring Late-flowering.

Sept/Oct 18" (45cm)

£4.30 for 10 or £10.00 for 25



LAMBROOK GOLD 15-32

Many rounded small golden apricot yellow flowers on a good strong stem with paler green foliage, easy and increasing.

Aug 24" (60cm)

£5.00 for 10



LUCIFER ♡ 15-07

Early flowering (for a Crocosmia) with magnificent contrasts between the deep green leaves and the crimson red flowers. A sun lover and one of those plants that most people recognise from afar for good reason.

July 36" (90cm)

£3.50 for 3



PAUL'S BEST YELLOW 15-37

First admired at Dick Fulcher's nursery in Devon when he claimed that this was the best new Crocosmia. I think that he was right and I prefer the clear bright yellow colours in the high summer more than the brooding reds of some Crocosmia anyhow. Upright and quite tall with long flower tresses.

Aug 36" (90cm)

£6.50 for 3



TWILIGHT FAIRY GOLD 15-38

Darkly bronzed foliage (which looks its best in the sun) provides a foil for the late flowering gold flowers. Much more compact in habit.

Aug-Sept 16" (40cm)

£5.00 for 10



QUEEN MARY II 15-35

The RHS Plant Finder thinks this is the same plant as C. Columbus. Purplish in bud but a warm apricot colour in flower with darker foliage. Producing lots of flower. Easy and increasing.

Aug/Sept 30" (75cm)

£5.50 for 15 or £7.50 for 25

DAHLIA

For anyone new to Dahlias they need sun and would like it hot - when they also do better in moist soils where they repay ones efforts with zingy displays in jaunty colours that go on for months and which the butterflies and bees love (the ones with exposed centres anyhow). Then, ahead of the winter, you have to decide to either leave your tubers in the ground (when you will try and provide an extra covering of material to keep them drier and more frost free) or lift the tubers (to dry them in the autumn before storing them out of the frost for the winter). There is no hard and fast rule as to which is more successful, your location, soil type and attitude to risk will lead you one way or the other.

As an alphabetic list these looked pretty confusing so they are listed here by their 'classification' (in brackets after the name) so the more similar types follow one another. Six new ones provide additional choice this year.



AMBITION (CACTUS) 26-36

Bright vibrant pale purple, medium sized heads covered in spiky petals, and lots of flowers on each plant. Flowering over a long season and still in flower in late October as I write this. Green leaved.

Summer 30" (75cm)

£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



HILLCREST ROYAL (CACTUS) ♡ 26-57

Thin rolled petals provide the spiky appearance in a shocking magenta pink, veering to purple. It was one that Christopher Lloyd used to great effect at Great Dixter.

Summer 38" (95cm)

£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



NUIT D'ETE (CACTUS) 26-04

Tightly rolled petals (I admit stealing the analogy that I have read elsewhere of them) looking like quills, deep red-black in the centre and crimson-red at the edge. Slightly 'shaggy' as they go over but dead head them for a further flush, rich and effective in the garden or as cut flower. Dark green leaved.

**Summer 30" (75 cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3**



ARABIAN NIGHT (DECORATIVE) 26-13

Full headed, saucer sized heads that are packed with petals, opening the colour of really ripe raspberries, paler thereafter. Richly coloured and not so tall that they require staking and always very upright. Slightly earlier flowering than most other Dahlias.

**Summer 30" (75cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3**



CRÈME DE CASSIS (DECORATIVE) 26-59

A pinkish violet coloured flower, rather more plum coloured on the backs of the petals which provides a lovely two tone effect.

**Summer 36" (90cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3**



KARMA CORONA (DECORATIVE) 26-60

Half way between the spiky forms and the ball headed forms, the florets are pointed at their ends so that the fullness of the flower is exaggerated without it being too whacky, all this in a bright pink with yellow showing through towards the centre.

**Summer 36" (90cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3**



PURPLE FLAME (DECORATIVE) 26-61

Richly coloured in regal purple and with dark foliage to boot. A winning combination.

**Summer 36" (90cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3**



RIP CITY (DECORATIVE) 26-37

An upright, strong growing plant with dark green leaves and strong stems with fully double reddish black flowers, almost black at the centre. A taller and larger plant that flowers later than Nuit d'Ete, the petals less tightly rolled.

**Summer 40" (100cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3**



SEDUCTION (DECORATIVE) 26-62

The white background to this flower is easy to miss as the pretty lilac staining overlaying it nearly covers the petals, though is stronger around their rim. The flowers are about 4" (10cm) across on an upright plant.

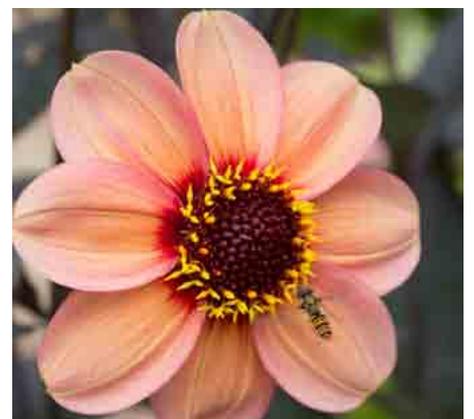
**Summer 36" (90cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3**



THOMAS A EDISON (DECORATIVE) 26-38

Named after the man who invented the phonograph, the first motion camera and a long lasting lightbulb! Where the connection comes from beats me but this one is bigger flowered, in a crushed plum colour that goes brilliantly with the deeper reds, purples and pinks. Best late in the summer.

**Summer 30" (75cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3**



HAPPY SINGLE KISS (SINGLE) 26-49

I am uncertain as to how to describe the colour of the flower, pale peach perhaps, with a darker brown ring around the stamens. The foliage is dark and being heavily branched results in a profusion of flowers.

**Summer 24" (60cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3**





HAPPY SINGLE FLAME 🏆 26-50

One of the outstanding single flowered Dahlias seen on a visit to the National Dahlia Collection in September. It sports dark foliage, is upright with vivid red petals that are pale yellow around the deep red disc, itself covered in gold.



Summer 24" (60cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



BISHOP OF LLANDAFF 🏆
(MISCELLANEOUS) 26-05

Bright vibrant reddish flowers with an orange tint, the foliage is a dark burnished purple (which is always darkest if planted in direct sunlight) and the combination is always impressive. An old favourite dating back to 1924 and it is the original mother parent to the others in the Bishop series, my grandmother grew them in the post war years.

Summer 36" (90cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



FRANZ KAFKA (POMPON)
26-45

Possibly the breeder was a fan of the Prague born writer, evidently single sentences of his sometimes spanned a whole page, tricky for translators! The Dahlia that is named after him is simpler - pink with paler edges to the petals and about 3" (8cm) across.

Summer 26" (65cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



TWYNINGS AFTER EIGHT (SINGLE) 🏆 26-51

Noticeably softer leaved in glistening black, a plant that provides strong contrasts with white flowers with a yellow centre, the petals flushed pink as they fade. The butterflies love it, and they too are shown off to advantage against it. It must be planted in full sun to tan most deeply.



Summer 48" (120cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



BISHOP OF YORK (MISCELLANEOUS) 26-16

The dark foliage combines really well with the single yellow flowers, which in some lights have an apricot hue. Late into flower and at its best in late summer when mature plants are well covered in flower, to which butterflies are magnetically attracted. Elevating and vibrant.

Summer 30" (75cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



GENOVA (POMPON) 26-42

This form has pale lavender colour flowers which gradually fade to near white as they gently expand. Heads initially about 3" (8cm) across. Always covered in blossom later in the summer.

Summer 30" (75cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



BISHOP OF AUCKLAND (MISCELLANEOUS) 26-15

Richly crimson coloured single flowers with a golden centre, nicely symmetrical and dramatic against the dark foliage, typical of the Bishop series.



Summer 36" (90cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



COCCINEA VAR. PALMERI (MISCELLANEOUS) 26-08

This is nearly a signature plant for us. These are pot grown tubers for planting out, as we did many years ago, where the same plant still persists despite occasionally experiencing temperatures lower than -12°C with just a mulch in some years. Now 8' or more tall and nearly as broad, without being bold, the characteristically dissected foliage provides a light and airy feel. The scattered flowers abound in the late summer in a clear zingy orange.

Late summer 6-8' (180-230cm)
£6.50



NATAL (POMPON) 26-44

Vibrant crimson red with many flowers on each plant. A flower that really stands out but one that is easy to place as green and red always works well. Heads about 3" (8cm) across.

Summer 26" (65cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3

DIERAMA



PULCHERRIMUM 79-02

South African plants that make thick clumps of leaves and (after years of waiting for seed raised plants) reward one with arching stems flying delicate fluttering flags of bell shaped flowers in the summer, but rarely flower whilst in pots. They need good soil in a sheltered setting with summer moisture and probably full sun. Where they thrive they are the envy of all. We have done all the waiting and watering for you, these are pot grown plants (in 1 litre pots) that may already be 3-4 years old but will flower soon after becoming established in your garden. These will vary in colour from pale pink through to plum, and possibly some whites.

Summer 36-48" (90-120cm)
£8.50

DISPORUM



FLAVUM 30-06

Rhizomatous plants from the Himalayas and eastwards, these choice plants come from Korea and are hardy here growing in reasonably fertile soils in part shade. Bell like flowers hang softly from the tips of the stems, like Uvularia.

May-June 24" (60cm)
£6.00



ERYNGIUM

The Sea Hollies. Summer flowering architectural plants with interesting and often colourful bracts surrounding the many flowers, very attractive to butterflies and insects and providing a spiky skeletal foil against which other summer flowering plants look great. These are supplied as established plants in a 9 cm or 1 litre pot, and whilst some flower in 2017, they may take a year to reach their full stature. Aid them to get established in sunny conditions so that they will in time have to 'work' to survive, growing them hard results in better plants and more colourful flowers in due course.



VARIIFOLIUM 17-01

Mid green foliage crazed with white veins provides early interest, followed by branched stems with spiky blue flowers.

July/Aug 12-16" (30-40cm)
£4.50



X BOURGATII PICOS BLUE 17-02

Exceptionally for many sea hollies these have large deeply lobed dark green leaves before the flowers so it is another dual season plant with the flowers lighting up the late summer months.

July-Aug 18-20" (45-50cm)
£6.00



X ZABELII BIG BLUE 17-03

Spiky leaved with splashes of white, these are sun lovers for open situations. Opening pale blue and turning deeper blue as they age.

July - Sept 32" (80cm)
£5.00



X ZABELII JOS EIJKING 17-04

Most intense in colour when grown in full sun, these tolerate poorer soils once established and in such produce 'tighter' plants. Egg sized flowers mass on the branched and spiny stems.

July-Aug 28" (70cm)
£5.50



EUCOMIS



Eucomis plants go dormant with the frost, having emerged from the ground very late in the spring (in late May or early June) by when the threat of frost had passed. Planted deeply in the ground and emerging late they thus avoid any frost damage. The earliest flowering (E. autumnalis) is thought to be the most tender. In tubs or planters they will need more protection in winter, but needing no moisture or light when dormant, they could spend the coldest months in a dry shed.

In summer the flowers are topped off by a crown of small tufted leaves, hence the common name for them – the Pineapple Lilies. They last ages in flower, and architectural seedheads follow the flowers till the frost cuts the stems down as dormancy returns. Looking a bit exotic they are much easier to grow than first imagined, only requiring deep planting in a reasonably fertile and moisture retentive soil in the sun to do well. Slugs can be a problem as they emerge from the ground, but they are not palatable to rabbits. And the flower stems last ages in water, just cut off a short amount of stem each week as you change the water and you'll get 3 or 4 weeks use from them.



**AUTUMNALIS
(ZAMBESIACA) 21-04**

Glistening in bright sunlight these produce cylinders of white flowers opening first from the bottom with a bright green top knot. These are the earliest into flower and then in either flower or decorative seed head for months. Plant bulbs about 6" (15cm) apart. If you delay planting them till mid May they flower later and then last much longer, flowering in the cooling months after the summer heat.

**Aug/Sept 12" (30cm)
£7.00 for 3 or £10.00 for 5**



BICOLOR  21-05

Held on a tough succulent stem, some of which are darkly freckled, the flowers hang densely jostling for space, each flower a pale ivory green with a purple centre and hemmed in purple. As they set seed these swell and inflate to an architectural green cudgel that develops a purple and brown suntan as it ages. Glossy leaved and good for pots or the garden. Allow 10" (25cm) spread or 3 bulbs in a 14" (35cm) pot.

**Aug/Sept 18" (45cm)
£7.50 for 3**



BICOLOR ALBA 21-06

Pale green flowered, tending towards yellow in some lights with unspeckled stems. These lack the purple of bicolor and have brighter and lighter feel to them.

**Aug/Sept 18" (45cm)
£4.00**



COMOSA (OUR DARK STEMMED SELECTION) 21-10

Especially selected plants identified and isolated here from the group above with dark leaves, dark stems and purple flowers. But not quite as dark, or as uniform, as E. Sparkling Burgundy..

**Aug/Sept 30" (75cm)
£4.50**



COMOSA 21-08

The best of the 'standard' garden forms, these are waxy flowered in shades of green and pink topping a stem that can be as long as 18" (45cm) and they last for ages with architectural seedheads following. Excellent again as cut flower. Possibly too big for ordinary planters, so allow 15" (40cm) spread in a sunny border. Cricket ball sized bulbs.

**Aug/Sept 24-48" (60-120cm)
£3.50 or £9.00 for 3**



COMOSA CORNWOOD 21-09

A very distinct clone (only raised by vegetative propagation, so all the plants are identical) with pale jade coloured stems covered in dozens of glistening pinkish ivory cream flowers from which shine out the distinctive purple-black ovaries, like rows of dark buttons. Not as tall as most other E. comosa.

**Aug/Sept 18" (45cm)
£5.50**



COMOSA PINK GIN 21-11

Glowing pink, especially in the low angled autumn afternoon sunlight this clone is outstanding for its combination of clear pink flowers and bright green foliage. The flowers get bigger as the bulb's girth grows, then through natural splitting, a clump develops. A brilliant plant, but produced only through splitting so our stocks will always be limited, but combine it with the plant below for a 'boozy' pairing near the patio?

Aug/Sept 4' (120cm)
£10.00



COMOSA SPARKLING BURGUNDY 21-12

A striking pink and purple flowered selection identified in the 1960s with deep burgundy-purple leaves and flower stems which emerge from the ground in the early summer near black, turning more olive green by mid-summer. Cricket ball size bulbs. They must be grown in direct sun to achieve their true colouration.

Aug/Sept 20" (50cm)
£8.50



PALLIDIFLORA 21-07

Some sell the same plant as *E. pole evansii*, we think ours is its correct name, though the former is highly regarded. These are yellow-green flowered on stems some 3" (8cm) thick, the individual flowers on stiff pedicels held away from the stalk. Late flowering and very tall, the bulbs are equally sizeable and need planting deeply to provide enough support to the stem.

Sept/Oct 4-5' (120-150cm)
£10.00

GALTONIA

I am told that it may not be too long before we should be calling these Ornithogalum, but till then we will stick with the familiar Galtonia? These are South African bulbs which are best in sunny borders, they seem to love a wetter summer, remember that the South African summers are wet and the winters dry. The bell shaped flowers hang on short pedicels away from the green stem, waxy and elegant. The effect is peaceful and cooling, providing useful vertical accents and they combine perfectly with other South African plants such as Agapanthus and ornamental grasses. If you garden on particularly cold wet soils further north you may think about lifting the bulbs in November and storing them dry overwinter. On lighter soils they seed about. Plant bulbs about 5" (12cm) apart, and beware of slug attack on emerging foliage.



CANDICANS 23-04

Towers of waxy, milk-white flowers on sturdy stems with upright grey-green leaves. Stately plants, always admired. If you delay planting your bulbs into May you tend to get flowers that last longer in the slightly cooler autumn than those flowering in the peak of the summer heat. They also grow away more readily when planted later rather than sulking in the still cold soil. Masses of seed results. Unhappy with the standard bulbs produced in Holland we have found a different source of really healthy bulbs, and despite some concern over the size of the bulbs our trial bed in 2015 was wonderful and in 2016 better still, if you have been disappointed before do try again, these will I am sure surprise you too.

Aug 36" (90cm)
£4.00 for 3 or £6.00 for 5



VIRIDIFLORA 23-06

Less ramrod straight than *G. candicans* and later flowering with pale green flowers and broader pale green leaves. Whilst these bulbs flowered in 2016 they are still medium sized bulbs and will grow on to be much bigger, it just takes a few years so anticipate thicker, longer and more numerous stems from your clump in time, flower arrangers love them.

Sept/ Oct 30" (75cm)
£6.00 for 3

GLADIOLUS



CALLIANTHUS MURIELAE 🏆

24-19

Often still called *Acidanthera murielae* these bulbs were first collected in Ethiopia where they are found wild throughout the mountain chains of East Africa. Our winters are too wet and cold for them and consequently they do not successfully over winter in most British gardens. But they are reasonably inexpensive and supplying big bulbs (as we do) they will produce an impressive show in the same year as planting. If you do wish to try to over-winter bulbs they will need a dry winter rest and they flower better if stored at about 15° C. I would suggest that you stagger your planting in the spring and keep some bulbs back to plant late (the end of May) for an extended show into the cooler autumn days when the flowers last twice as long. Long, slightly pleated, deep green leaves provide a lush foil from which the furred buds emerge almost unnoticed to open with white flowers with a chocolate throat that sway gently on the lengthening flower stems. Understated and refined they have a subtle perfume, stronger in the evenings, so do position them near to a door or path to take full advantage of the scent for by that stage their flowers are nearly at nose level. A 12" (30cm) pot will take about 7-10 bulbs, but choose a heavy and deep one for increased stability.

We usually have these ready and available just before Christmas as a suitable gardening gift – something you might remember for another year after you have enjoyed some this summer?

Aug/Sept 30" (75cm)

£4.80 for 20 or £11.00 for 50

There is a huge range of hybrid Gladioli. These shorter forms (which often appear under the epithet of 'nanus') are very suitable for small gardens and will not need staking. In cold areas their early emerging leaves can be frost burnt, and where mice are a problem the bulbs can present an attractive meal. They are best in sheltered sunny spots in fairly well drained soils, in colder areas they might do better in some protection.



NANUS NYMPH

24-11

White flowers with reddish purple lipstick markings on the lower petals. The flower stems are more wayward and less upright, this is the most sought after of the coloured forms when we exhibit them together.

July 24" (60cm)

£4.60 for 10 or £10.30 for 25



NANUS THE BRIDE

24-06

Greenish white flowers with a pale yellow green throat to each flower, the most popular of the shorter forms by far.

July 18" (45cm)

£4.60 for 10 or £10.30 for 25



NANUS ATOM

24-18

Orange red flowers, each emboldened by a white edge enhancing the petal shape especially where they overlap, they are rather lovely.

July 30" (75cm)

£4.60 for 10 or £10.30 for 25



NANUS MIRELLA

24-17

Initially pillar box red in flower, fading gently, with good upright stems. We have found them to be long lasting in flower.

July 30" (75cm)

£4.60 for 10 or £10.30 for 25

The flevo series are the result of a breeding program led by the Snoek family in Flevoland, a polder reclaimed from the IJsselmeer in central Holland. They are very upright with the flowers held close to the stem in a variety of 'modern' colours with good lasting qualities. These may also need some mulching in cold gardens in the winter, though could also be lifted and stored dry as they tend to be pretty inactive in the winter when kept dry.



HYBRID FLEVO COOL 24-21

Two tone lilac coloured flowers with a darker reddish purple tongue of colour in the throat, I can see them being used in flower arrangements with Agapanthus heads.

Aug/Sept 24" (60cm)
£4.60 for 10



HYBRID FLEVO LAGUNA 24-20

Yellowish green coloured with upwards of eight flowers up the stem, all edged in crimson.

Aug/Sept 24" (60cm)
£4.60 for 10



HYBRID FLEVO VITO 24-22

Scarlet red flowered, broken up with yellow rays down the centre of the petals and by pale anthers.

Aug/Sept 24" (60cm)
£4.60 for 10



PAPILIO 24-13

These bulbs never get very big and in the ground their anchoring stolons tend to 'move' them in the soil so they sometimes land up some way from where they were planted. The hooded purple green flowers almost demand to be held up so as to look at the feathered purple and gold markings within. Perfectly hardy here and over much of the country elsewhere I would expect, increasing quite rapidly in soils that are not too dry.

Late summer 36" (90cm)
£6.00 for 5



RUBY 24-14

These were originally presumed to be a form of *G. papilio* when first sold at Hadspen. Now they are thought to be more closely linked to *G. ecklonii*. Sturdy plants which are relatively vigorous and indeed seed around the nursery, but evidently less hardy than the species above, with hooded crimson flowers exhibiting slight variability in shade and flower shape. The seedlings they throw do vary widely in shape and colour, suggesting that this is a plant of hybrid origin. In demand and a small stock.

Late summer 36" (90cm)
£4.80

HEDYCHUM

South East Asian members of the ginger family, forming big plants by late summer. They are sun lovers with broad green foliage and hollow stems. All parts smell of ginger to some extent. The flowers are sweetly scented. Hardier than one might expect, ours have survived past winters outside with a mulch, *H. coronarium* is more tender and would need winter protection of some sort. All these by division.



CORONARIUM 🏆 27-04

Clusters of white flowers, yellow marked, extending from cone shaped buds with big jungle green stems and leaves. These will flower in sunny gardens outdoors, but do so late in the year and on shorter stems, and will need winter protection. However they love a warmer greenhouse even more (even a huge pot protected in winter) when they will flower rather earlier than suggested. Fantastically fragrant.

Sept 48-60" (120-150cm)
£4.50



DENSIFLORUM ASSAM ORANGE

27-06

Completely hardy here, the same form as collected by Kingdon Ward in 1938, with many narrow orange flowers. Vigorous and increasing, particularly these past summers although they emerge from the ground very late, they could provide a very unusual jungley summer screen.

Aug & Sept 30" (75cm)
£6.00 for 3 or £9.00 for 5

HELIANthemum

A very varied family from right around the Northern Hemisphere, the translation from the Greek would be 'sun flower' and they are commonly called Rock Roses. Both these names provide a clue to their preferences - open conditions in lots of light in free draining soils where they are drought tolerant when established. These are all nearly evergreen, but perfectly hardy, available in 7 cm pots. They all flower for a long period in the summer and only need a light trim after flowering to keep them tidy and to encourage further flowering.

All the same price £2.80 each



DENSIFLORUM STEPHEN 27-08

The flower is much longer and looser than those of Assam Orange, yellow and orange in colour. They increase steadily in our heavy loam soils.

Aug & Sept 40-50" (100-125cm)
£5.00 or £13.50 for 3



BEN MORE

Deep orange flowers and a mid green foliage.

49-01

Suggested planting interval 12" (30cm)
Summer flowering 8"-10" (20-25cm)



BEN FHADA

Bright yellow with an egg yolk centre, foliage initially pale, darkening as summer approaches.

49-02

Suggested planting interval 18" (45cm)
Summer flowering 12"-15" (30-40cm)



TARA 🏆

27-05

Fragrant orange coloured flowers in a loose arrangement on strong tall stemmed plants. Here they are grown in the open and unprotected but in cold gardens it may be wise to mulch them in cold winters. One of the outstanding plants on the nursery in the summer of 2015.

Aug/Sept 6' (180cm)
£7.00



GEORGEHAM

Big pink flowers with a creamy inner ring.

49-03

Suggested planting interval 18" (45cm)
Summer flowering 12"-15" (30-40cm)



SHOT SILK

Pale apricot with touches of orange.

49-04

Suggested planting interval 15" (38cm)
Summer flowering 10"-12" (25-35cm)

IRIS

A huge family and our list for autumn planting offers many more truly bulbous ones. These are the open ground grown forms which are dug and divided in the early spring to order, so will all be supplied as divisions.



ORIENTALIS

103-18

From northern Greece and Turkey, a more rhizomatous plant with magnificent displays of white and yellow flowers atop tall stems. They take a while to settle and thicken up, quicker in open sunny conditions and in moist soils, but they are tough and dependable. They could also be used as marginal or bog plants.

Late spring 36" (90cm)
£8.50 for 3



THE BRIDE

White flower with a yellow centre and silvery foliage.

49-05

Suggested planting interval 15" (38cm)
Summer flowering 10"-12" (25-35cm)



WISLEY PRIMROSE

Soft primrose coloured flowers over silvery foliage.

49-06

Suggested planting interval 18" (45cm)
Summer flowering 12"-15" (30-40cm)

HEMEROCALLIS



KWANZO FLORE PLENA

19-09

This daylily I believe to be virtually indestructible in a gardening sense. Tough, vigorous and persistent, back into leaf early in the spring and with a long flowering period as the individual flowers take over, one from another. Full-petalled, brownish orange in colour with darker markings; a very old hybrid. An easy, bone hardy, bombproof herbaceous plant, also good near water. Allow 18" (45cm) spread from divisions.

Aug 30" (75cm)
£3.50 or £9.00 for 3



SIBIRICA

103-12

A good mid blue unnamed form close in character to the species (which comes from north east Asia), it flowers brilliantly in the open ground but efforts to flower it in a pot for exhibition have always failed for us. This is a tall form, the flowers reaching 3-4' (90-120cm) especially in good moisture retentive soils. The named forms that follow are all a bit shorter.

May/June 36" or more (90cm)
£10.50 for 3



SIBIRICA DREAMING YELLOW 103-31
 White standards with pale creamy falls and the centre darker yellow again.
 June 30" (80 cm)
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3



SIBIRICA SILVER EDGE 🏆 103-32
 Two tone blue flowers, the standards paler than the falls with a fine thread of silver edging the flower.
 June 30" (75cm)
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3



SIBIRICA FLIGHT OF BUTTERFLIES 103-26
 Two tone flowers with the purple blue standards rising above the patterned white and blue falls. The foliage is narrow and compact, persisting and quite grass-like in winter. Easy and increasing.
 May/June 30" (75cm)
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3



IRIS SIBIRICA SPARKLING ROSE 103-33
 Seemingly less leafy but with rosy purple flowers, veined with white towards the centre, with a yellow throat.
 June 30" (75cm)
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3



SANGUINEA SNOW QUEEN

103-28

A clean white flower with golden yellow markings at the base with more rounded petals. A subsection of *I. sibirica*, these are originally central Asian. For open conditions in moisture retentive soil, a neat and tidy plant producing lots of flower.

June 30" (75cm)
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3

IXIA

We have used some Ixia to great effect at Chelsea over the last couple of years, they provide a waxy upright and colourful addition to the display. But despite people telling us that they grow them in their gardens and that they self-seed and reappear regularly they are not always easy plants in the British climate. These successful gardeners must be gardening on light sandy soils as ordinarily our winters are too wet and cold for unprotected bulbs. But on the other hand they are pretty cheap to buy and we feel that by planting them in the early spring you will get a worthwhile display the same summer. Generally small bulbed, somewhere between a large pea and a small marble.



CASTOR

105-04

A shorter form with pale cerise pink coloured flowers. Without the stem length of Mabel they tend to not arch as dramatically but better in smaller spaces.

Summer 24" (60cm)
£3.45 for 10 or £8.00 for 25



MABEL

105-05

A rich crimson coloured form, this one taller than many. The long stem length allows them to arch prettily, but they do need to be in good light otherwise they will not open properly.

Summer 36" (90cm)
£3.45 for 10 or £8.00 for 25



SPOTLIGHT

105-09

Not quite as tall as Mabel with white flowers, red striped down the back of each petal.

Summer 20" (48cm)
£3.45 for 10 or £8.00 for 25

KNIPHOFIA

The Kniphofia are sun lovers and would prefer an open sunny position. But gardening books mostly suggest that they need very well drained soils to do well. We think that in this they are wrong. In our heavy loam soils which are never waterlogged for long these field grown varieties thrive and increase well, despite having experienced temperatures below -15°C with little protection in past winters. They must be much more resilient than is usually suggested. In cold areas one may need to be careful of extended freeze ups, against which a protective mulch of the crown would be advisable. They last ages in flower and offer vertical accents of colour in the late summer with very little trouble at all.



BEES LEMON

145-18

From the Bees stable (an old nursery 'Bees of Chester' 1938-1960). Green buds turn pale yellow late in the summer and early autumn on these. From division. Allow 15" (40cm) spread.

Aug/Sept 36" (90cm)
£5.50



BEES SUNSET

145-05

This is a large and vigorous glowing orange on an apricot stem forming good barrel shaped flowers. An outstanding form in the RHS trials 2007-2009. These make thick clumps in time and have many flowers. We provide generous divisions from open ground raised plants. Allow 15" (40cm) spread.

July/Aug 40" (100cm)
£5.50



BUTTERCUP 145-06

Warm orangey-yellow flowered plants, vigorous and making good mounds of healthy foliage, well able to support the strong flowering stems. Divisions from field grown stock. Allow 15" (40cm) spread.

July/Aug 40" (100cm)
£5.50



ICE QUEEN 145-08

Flowering late in the summer and then into the early autumn with ghostly green spikes in bud turning to creamy white flower heads, the last flower stems bravely resisting any early frosts and lovely in the early autumn when the spent flower stems provide natural scaffolding for splendid spider's webs. Divisions from field grown stocks Allow 18" (45cm) spread.

Late summer 40" (100cm)
£5.50

LATHRAEA



CLANDESTINA 71-105

Purple toothwort, a parasite mainly of willow, poplar, hazel and alder (though rarely seeming to cause any harm to its host). The slightly orchid like flowers are all one sees above ground, a true parasite having no chlorophyll. Plant these divisions close up against the bole of a mature host.

April • 3" (8cm)
£5.00

LILIUM

For scent, drama and beauty the lilies are hard to beat, truly one of the nation's favourite flowers! But do remember that many of the lilies are derived from plants that originally grew in nearly monsoonal conditions. They thrive on a combination of high rainfall and good drainage! So in an effort to lock in water near the plant do add lots of humus to the soil when planting and because many are stem rooting (the roots emerging from the stem between the bulb and the soil surface provide anchorage and sustenance) it may be necessary to plant them quite deeply. Lily beetle is a scourge, red and black and very visible as adults, they are easily squashed under one's shoe but their larvae (in a slimy protective blanket) are worse to deal with. Over much of the UK now they are a pest for which there seem to be no natural predators. The insecticide Provado does work to reduce their numbers, diminishing the overwintered population.



Asiatic trumpet forms:
Tall lilies for borders with large hugely scented trumpets flowering in mid summer.

REGALE 31-04

Much like a good string of pearls on a simple black dress, Liliium regale provides that indefinable understated but classical look, and in this case with a huge scent. Glistening white with some yellow in the throat, the backs of the petals flushed with pink. Reportedly less attractive to the lily beetle when grown alone?

July 36" (90cm)
£10.00 for 3



REGALE ALBUM 31-05

Very similar to the lily above, but without the pinkness to the back of the petals and still heavily perfumed.

July 36" (90cm)
£10.00 for 3



RED VELVET 31-36

Deep mahogany red with lots of flowers on each stem all marked with darker speckling. A really good, upright new lily with poise, the dark stem only adds to the effect.

July 36" (90cm)
£6.00 for 3



Asiatic forms:
NETTY'S PRIDE 31-35

A rather more 'modern' lily compared with many of the others that we list but it is popular for the contrast between the ivory exterior and the dark cappuccino dusted centres, speckled where they meet. Really good in containers and if they provide a contemporary feel then these lilies will only enhance that look.

June/July 30" (75cm)
£6.00 for 3



Asiatic double forms:

ELODIE 31-30

A very pretty semi double flowered lily in peachy pink with a sprinkling of darker freckles. Columnar rather than branched in habit and quite tall with tidy wide leaves. A pollen free variety with a good vase life, if you can bear to cut them for the house.

June/July 36-48" (90-120cm)
£6.00 for 3



Oriental forms:

More obviously hybrid forms, all of which have some 'Oriental' characteristics. Generally not so tall and perhaps better suited to containers.

CASA BLANCA 31-11

Upright plants with huge, scented, sparkling white flowers, palest pink on the reverse with big, dark anthers that look as though they have been brushed with mascara. They do not grow well in very limey soils and may be less tolerant of unusually cold winters, but fantastic in pots in more ericaceous compost where the late flowering and very heavy scent can be enjoyed to the full.

July/Aug 30" (75cm)
£7.00 for 3



Species forms:

HENRYII 31-20

First found by an Irish explorer Augustine Henry, who in 1888 found it growing in limestone gorges in Hubei province, China. Best planted as part of a group of other summer interest plants in the sun where you can take advantage of the fact that the naturally arching stems will find their own comfortable angle, forcing them into a more vertical inclination with stakes never works so well. The pendulous orange flowers with their raised papillae, reflexed tepals and extended stamens invoke comparisons with weird sea creatures.

Summer 48-60" (110-150cm)
£7.00 for 3



LEICHTLINII 31-37

A species form deriving from Korea, deep yellow with strongly reflexed petals covered in small brown speckles. It is one of the very best yellow lilies and planted with care should do many seasons.

July 48" (110cm)
£6.00 for 3



TIGRINUM SPLENDENS (LANCIFOLIUM) 31-46

The species plant from which the 'Tiger Lilies' all derive, speckled black over deeply orange-mahogany – red petals with more lance shaped leaves. One of the toughest lilies by repute.

Aug/Sept 36-48" (120 – 150cm)
£6.00 for 3



SPECIOSUM RUBRUM 31-47

For those who feel that the oranges of the *L. tigrinum* or *L. henryii* are too strong these are similarly reflexed but in crimson and white, and for added effect are very heavily scented. These however would prefer neutral to acidic soil conditions.

Aug / Sept 36-48" (120 – 150cm)
£6.00 for 3

OPHIOPOGON



NIGRESCENS 🏆 116-04

This is a useful companion plant to many others, providing a dramatic contrast equally well to bright foliage plants or shorter low pale flowered plants such as Snowdrops, Colchicum or Cyclamen for instance. In leaf all year round the small purple flowers are a nice adornment in the early summer but if planted in a little shade these set strings of shiny black berries which last for ages through the autumn and winter. (The resulting seedlings may well be green leaved however). Easy, tough and slowly creeping. Plants from division

Summer 8" (20cm)
£3.50 or £9.00 for 3

NERINE

Late-flowering members of the Amaryllis family which flower in the autumn without their leaves. Often seen as 'fickle', they seem to grow and flower unattended in some gardens whilst in others despite being worried and fussed over they appear to flower sparsely, if everything else seems right just allow them time to settle! They do need good light, some summer moisture and to be left alone till tightly clumped - then they flower best of all. Close observation of the flowers in direct sun will reveal their iridescent sparkle.



BOWDENII 🏆 33-04

Very familiar pale fuchsia-pink flowers that seem to thrive best at the base of a warm wall. Shallower planting suits them best and they seem to flower better when somewhat congested. Flowering in the same year as planting is sometimes unimpressive, but be patient for spectacular autumnal fireworks.

Sept/Oct 15" (40cm)
£4.00 for 3 or £9.00 for 7



ZEAL GIANT 🏆 33-19

A certain favourite with bright cerise-pink flowers, on long clean stems. Big bulbed (relative to N. bowdenii) and quite slow to increase. The long lasting flowers adorn many Harvest Festival flower arrangements locally! Raised by the late Terry Jones in Devon. Late flowering and hence better in some shelter in some sun warmed soil. It is also winter dormant and should be as hardy as N. bowdenii.

Sept/Oct 18" (45cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3

ORLAYA



GRANDIFLORA 🏆 12-01

We use these plants as a green companion to the more 'stemmy' bulbs in April and May in our exhibits where their white flowers soften the more varied colours of the late spring flowers. These are plants that will have become well rooted in 9 cm pots, ready for you to carefully pot them on to a larger size (probably 2L) to allow them to grow bigger before planting out into a border in early May. But these are plants you have to invest in! They are attractive to rabbits, they resent much root disturbance and we suggest that they are planted out late in the day when carrot fly are less likely to be attracted to the scent. But for all that a single plant can light up a border and enhance their surrounding plants.

Summer 18-24" (45-60 cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3



POLYGONATUM

The Solomon's Seals, a family of hardy perennials which will grow nearly anywhere. Their preference is for heavier, moisture retentive soils in some shade. Some will get impressively tall in such shade, sunnier situations will result in stems that are of shorter stature. They are affected by the Gooseberry Saw Fly caterpillar - though not all to the same extent. These are supplied as divisions (roots).



CURVISTYLUM 42-10

Dark stemmed plants with narrow purple tinted foliage and an arching habit carrying small mauve waisted bell shaped flowers in whorls at each leaf axil up the stem. Graceful yet very tough.

June 30" (75cm)
£5.00 or £12.00 for 3



ODORATUM 42-09

A tough yet rare native plant somewhat shorter and more compact than the other species with stems that are less upright than those of other members of the family. Much less affected by the Sawfly caterpillar. The flowers are scented, white and green.

May 18" (45cm)
£6.50 for 3



POLYANTHEMUM 42-17

Broader leaved with a distinctly more glossy appearance and white flowers. Their natural range is east of Turkey through into Russia.

May 24" (60cm)
£10.00 for 3



STENOPHYLLUM 42-08

Fine stemmed and graceful plants with clusters of white flowers tipped with green.

June 36" (90cm)
£4.00



ODORATUM FLORE PLENA 42-12

The more unusual double flowered form with hose-in-hose-like flowers in white and green.

May 18" (45cm)
£5.00



SIBERICUM 42-13

Tall plants with slender stems and long fine leaves which are more olive green in colour. Dangling greenish white flowers appear at the nodes in the stem, a clump of them has something of the appearance of a miniature bamboo.

May-June 38" (90cm)
£4.00



VERTICILLATUM ROSEUM 42-06

Tall and slender stemmed with whorls of narrow leaves and clusters of pink flowers up the stems in early summer. Red berries take their places in the late summer as the leaves begin to yellow, starting the garden's autumnal mood. More delicate looking than many of the family, but just as tough underneath it all.

June 36" (90cm)
£5.00



X HYBRIDUM 🏆 42-04

The toughest most vigorous and most familiar of the Solomon's Seals, and for good reason. Apart from being a garden stalwart the stems can be harvested for use in the house as cool green and white displays when in flower, or as home grown filler for much of the summer. Best (and more luxuriantly impressive) in some shade and in moisture retentive soils.

May/June 24-36" (60-90cm)
£6.50 for 3



X HYBRIDUM WELSH GOLD 42-15

Grown in the open the leaves of this form do turn golden in the spring (under the influence of what we are not sure). In some years the effect is stronger than in others but when it happens it is dramatic.

June 30" (75cm)
£5.00



RED 91-02

Mar-Apr 8-10" (20-24cm)

▲ Photo credit: Sue Hearnden



X HYBRIDUM GRACE BARKER 42-07

The variegated leaf form, shorter and more compact plant with irregular but dominant creamy white flashes over the grey-green leaves. The flowers are white, dangling below the arching stems just as you would expect, coordinating nicely with the foliage.

May/June 18-24" (45-60cm)
£5.00 or £12.00 for 3

**PRIMULA
DENTICULATA**

Easy drumstick Primulas which originate from the Himalayas where they grow in light woodland. Here they need somewhere that never really dries out, in neutral to acidic soils, in sun or part shade. They overwinter with the buds seemingly on the starting blocks just visible ready to pop up in March. The flower stems elongate whilst in flower with the longer toothed leaves extending to 12" (30cm) in length later in the spring. From 7 cm pots, and a suggested planting interval of about 10" (25cm)

All at £2.80 each



PURPLE 91-01

Mar-Apr 8-10" (20-24cm)



WHITE 91-03

Mar-Apr 8-10" (20-24cm)

▲ Photo credit: Sue Hearnden

PULSATILLA VULGARIS

The Pasque Flower (Pasque means Easter in French), but with Easter so moveable that may not be very useful? Plants of open conditions and grassland – and the answer to a possible quiz question – Which is the county flower for Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire as well as being the county flower for Manitoba and the state flower for Dakota? Mounds of silk soft hairy foliage produce these well loved flowers in March and April, followed by fluffy seed heads on the lengthening stems. Supplied in 7 cm pots, allow a planting interval of about 9" (20cm)

All priced at £2.80



WHITE

98-03

Mar-Apr 6-8" (15-20cm)

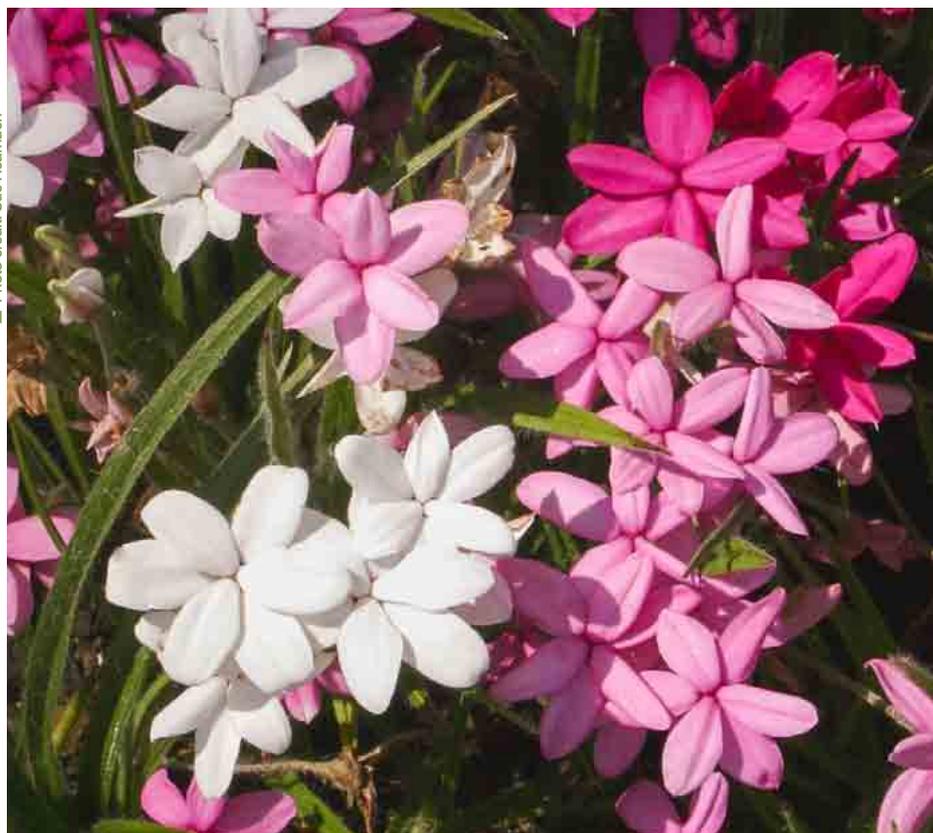


PURPLE 🍷

98-01

Mar-Apr 6-8" (15-20cm)

RHODOHYPOXIS



BAURII HYBRID 🍷

39-04

Small South African bulbs which, when happy, really do flower their socks off for very little return in effort. They do not like it wet in winter (when they are dormant), so we would suggest that you either need very well drained conditions (a raised bed perhaps) or, potted in mesh pots which can be planted out into the garden for the summer, and lifted (in their pot) for a dry winter's rest somewhere dry. The bulbs are naturally small and knobbly – just a warning to you to ensure no disappointment on arrival! They will still all flower. Unselected for colour, these come in shades of pink, white and red. Pot them into an all purpose mix (they do not want too much lime) 5 bulbs would, through the summer, fill a 4" (10cm) pot, with sun and regular water and with a bit of dead heading they might be in flower for 6 weeks or longer.

Summer 4" (10cm)
£4.00 for 5 or £11.00 for 15



RED

98-02

Mar-Apr 6-8" (15-20cm)

ROSCOEA

These hail from the Himalayas and eastward (with family connections to the ginger family). They are very hardy and for us (in heavy soil) do well in the open, although they are more routinely suggested as plants for part shade. So shade will do, as long as it is not too dry, and here they are useful in providing interesting summer colour in sometimes testing conditions.



AURICULATA 🏆 40-08

Flowers with bold purple lips and a slightly paler hood, supported on corrugated foliage, making their displays from mid July through to September. Vigorous and easy.

Late summer 15" (40cm)
£4.00 for 5 or £7.00 for 10



BEESIANA 🏆 40-05

A natural garden hybrid between R. cautleyoides and R. auriculata which results in vigorous plants with variable purple markings on otherwise yellow flowers - some have purple tips, others are more than half purple. Vigorous and easy.

Late summer 15" (40cm)
£4.50 for 3



CAUTLEYOIDES 40-06

Much earlier flowering than any of our other Roscoeas with pale butter yellow flowers held well above the foliage, evidently a more erect and less branched plant.

Early summer 15" (40cm)
£7.00 for 3



PURPUREA 40-10

Strong stemmed, with thickening at the nodes on the 'stems', somewhat like a bamboo, with successions of mauve-purple flowers providing interest and colour over several weeks.

Late summer 24" (60cm)
£5.50 for 3



PURPUREA BROWN PEACOCK

40-11

Darker leaved and with red tinged 'stems' (pseudostems to be correct), the flowers are mauve and lilac and they bloom later in the year. It is the colour of the stems and the stockier nature of the plant resulting in there being more flowers that makes a clump of these outstanding and desirable.

Late summer 24" (60cm)
£8.50 for 3

SANDERSONIA



AURANTIACA 62-01

A tender bulb, closely related to the Gloriosa (the Flame Lily of Southern Africa and India). Though these are neither as tall nor such good climbers with only small tendrils on the ends of the terminal leaves on which to hook themselves. Late to emerge from the soil but in flower for many weeks, even months, with bright orange lanterns (which if you wanted to, last ages as cut flower too). They must be overwintered dry and probably somewhere warmer than the greenhouse or shed. A good conservatory plant too.

Summer climbing to 3' (90cm)
£4.00

TRICYRTIS

The 'Toad Lily'. Wonderful autumn-flowering herbaceous plants. Tall, with soft corrugated leaves along wiry branched stems, the ends of which support purple orchid-like flowers. Best in a little shade, but happy enough in full sun as long as it is not too dry. When dormant they disappear back to small and unlikely looking rhizomes with an arrowhead-like growing point.



FORMOSANA 45-04

Orchid-like flowers on first sight. The white background nearly covered with rosy purple freckling. Very upright and wiry stemmed, the first flowers replaced by further flushes of flowers on the lower branches.

Sept/Oct 36" (90cm)
£4.50 for 5



FORMOSANA STOLONIFERA 45-06

Much paler than the form above with the background white more dominant, the leaves are also broader, softer and hairier and in some shade this grows pretty tall.

Sept/Oct 45" (1m)
£4.50 for 3



WHITE TOWERS 45-07

Softly felted leaves alternate along the arched stems with, at each leaf base flower stems holding tight buds which gradually open with white flowers with a yellow ring at the base. Very suitable for shade where the paler flowers will stand out.

Sept/Oct 18" (45cm)
£4.50 for 3

TRITONIA



X ROSEA (DISTICHA RUBROLUCENS) 15-11

A close relative to the Crocosmia and it may be more accurate to lump them together. Really long-lasting in flower with papery rose pink bells sequentially flowering along their thin wiry branching stems. Never many flowers open at once but in flower most of the summer. A lovely soft shape and colour to enhance a sunny border. Persistent grass-like foliage providing protection to the bulbs in the winter. South African plants, so they may benefit from a winter's mulch in cold areas. The small bulbs will not harm from being planted 4" (10cm) deep.

Summer 24" (60cm)
£4.00 for 3

TROPÆOLUM



SPECIOSUM 47-04

The Flame Creeper of middle Scotland in the summer, though it hails from Chile. The pieces of root supplied need to be planted in a peaty compost on the cool side of a hedge, allowing them to grow through the hedge to flower on the sunnier side. They prefer a high rainfall and will be difficult to establish in a dry scorching summer, but there are gardens in Devon and Somerset where they are happy, so it does happen.

Summer, climber
£5.00



TUBEROSUM KEN ASLET 47-08

Some tubers trained over some pea sticks have flowered for months this autumn and a few bulbs trained up some netting have camouflaged an oil tank for the summer. Pretty, knobbly pink flushed bulbs (reminding me of Jerusalem artichokes) produce Nasturtium-like foliage that scrambles into the light to produce masses of slightly periscope like flowers in green and orange. The tubers tend to grow toward the soil surface so may need reburying at intervals. Easy and increasing

Autumn climbing to 8' (2.5m)
£5.00

TULBAGHIA

Exceedingly drought-resistant plants from southern Africa. Members of the lily family all with garlic scented foliage and, with us, in flower for many months. Some of them are grown outside here, mulched in winter. In colder areas they may be better grown in pots in full sun, brought in to over-winter where they will not be frozen solid. Unless stated otherwise these are supplied as divisions.



ACUTILOBA 130-09

A small Tulbaghia with needle like leaves and green and khaki flowers flushed with orange on the stamens. They are not hardy save in very favoured gardens but very drought resistant they would survive in a pot of dry compost in any greenhouse with no water through the winter months. We will never make a fortune from them but they have a quirky understated attraction and are no bother at all. Grown in 9cm pots, there may be several plants in each, priced per pot.

Summer 5" (12cm)
£5.00



VIOLACEA 130-17

These plants flower continuously from June to October with a slightly pungent garlic smell from any crushed foliage. Probably the hardiest member of the family, we grow them outside here with a mulch in winter, but I think that one could get away with growing these outside further north where it is drier in winter, violet purple flowers and clump forming

All summer 18" (45cm)
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3



VIOLACEA SILVER LACE 130-08

Strongly silver-variegated form of T. violacea; purple-flowered and worth trying outside in sheltered gardens but the conventional wisdom is that this form is more tender. They are however very long flowered and would make an unusual feature planted in a ceramic pot, the foliage alone being very eye-catching.

Summer 14" (35cm)
£5.00 for 3



COMINSII X VIOLACEA 130-12

One of the longest flowering plants we grow, some early flowers are usually to be seen in late May, and there are usually still some flowers in October. One deadheading session in mid-summer and a sunny well drained soil is all that is required! On the edge of hardiness here so protection is probably a wise precaution. Much finer and more petite than T. violacea. Narrow lilac mauve flowers which, with the foliage, is all quite strongly onion scented. A really good patio plant.

Summer 14" (35cm)
£4.00



VIOLACEA PALLIDA 130-07

Daintily flowered in white, flushed with the palest pink. These are smaller flowered with shorter and less coarse foliage and are generally more delicate but increase well where happy, they do need a bit of shelter, a mulch in winter and a sunny site.

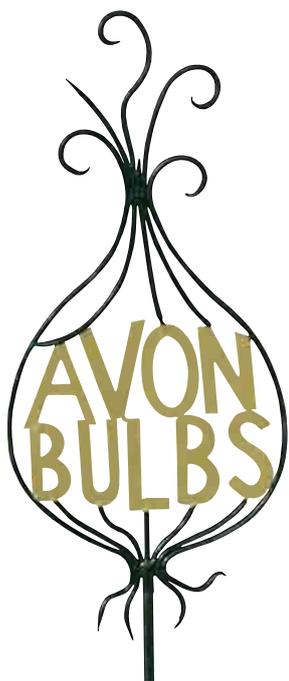
Summer 18" (45cm)
£5.00 for 3

Seeds from Avon Bulbs

Any packet of seeds
£2.50

We have a seed box which travels to the shows and from which customers can pick out seed packets that they might like to purchase. The range is small and generally reflects the plants that we have grown and are showing to associate well with the bulbs on the display (but the annuals flower from seed very much more quickly than bulbs) particularly at the Chelsea Flower Show where so many visitors from abroad want something to take home and try for themselves.

But many of our mail order customers do not see us at the shows and may like the chance to buy a packet or two? Availability may be limited depending on the demand at the shows!



Average seed contents: 15

Tulbaghia cominsii x violacea

Long flowering perennial of South African origin. Long thin leaved foliage, onion scented when crushed. Purple – pink flowers from June to October, 18-24" (45-60 cm) tall. Seedlings may vary, due to the hybrid nature of the plant. Sow in the very early spring, thinly in a coarse, soil based seedbed or pot and grow as you might do leek plants. Plant out when easy to handle about 1.5" (5 cm) apart in a sunny situation in free draining soil. Plants flower in their second year. Very good patio plants in planters, enjoying warm conditions and very drought tolerant. In cold areas mulch plants in the ground in winter and protect pots from extended freezing temperatures. Hardy outside to about -10 °C.



Average seed contents: 25

Dahlia coccinea var palmeri

Single orange-red flowers in late summer on a plant which exhibits very dissected 'frothy' foliage. The plant can be large, the seed was collected from an established plant about 7' tall. Dahlias like a rich fertile soil and need planting in the sun. They may need a mulch (or to be lifted) in cold gardens, but the species forms seem hardier than the hybrids. Sow the seed in warm conditions into moist seed compost, covering with a thin layer of compost. When big enough to handle prick the seedlings out into individual pots and keep growing in similar conditions. Harden off before planting into the garden. These should flower in their first season.



Average seed contents: 20

Allium cernuum

Claret pink flowered plants of reasonably well drained locations in full sun. Of North American origin and hardy in the UK, self sown seedlings spreading and thickening one's clumps. Summer flowering about 18" (45 cm) tall with leaves that persist for much of the year. The flowers are good for beneficial insects. Either sow directly where they are to be grown in the autumn or early spring, or thinly in a seed tray of well drained compost. Prick out when large enough to handle without damage. They may take 3 years to flower from seed, some will flower in their 2nd year



Average seed contents: 80

Nicotiana mutabilis (Ornamental Tobacco)

A striking tender plant up to 5' (1.5m) with showers of white flowers which turn through pink to a deep magenta as they mature. The effect is spectacular with both colours present on the plant together. Sow thinly in warm moist conditions in the late spring only covering the seed very thinly (the seed is tiny). Once large enough to handle prick out a few plants into individual pots and grow them in warm, light conditions. Keep potting the plant on till it is 6" tall (15cm) when it can be planted out into a sunny border. Flowers in the late summer. If a plant is overwintered (in frost free conditions) flowering is much earlier and more profuse the second year.



Average seed contents: 10

Lunaria annua 'Alba Variegata'

Hardy biennial, late spring flowering with scented white flowers on branching hairy stems bearing leaves with strong white variegation. The seed cases are distinctive as papery translucent discs. Early spring sown plants will flower the following spring and summer but autumn sown seed will not flower till the second spring. The variegation becomes more pronounced with age. Grow in sun or part shade. Self seeding around the garden. Mature plants 2-3' tall (60-90cm)



Average seed contents: 15

Cerinthe major 'Purpurascens'

A hardy annual from the Mediterranean region, known as Honeywort. An aristocratic border plant which is beautiful and versatile. It is adored by bees and is much favoured as a cut flower. It has glaucous leaves with interesting purple bracts and bell shaped flowers from May to September. It produces large black seeds in the autumn. Soak overnight and sow indoors from November to March, in seed compost, covering them to a depth of 2mm and keeping them moist. When large enough to handle, transplant into good well drained soil in sun or partial shade spacing them 5" (12cm) or more apart where they will reach 18-24" (45-60cm) tall.



Average seed contents: 10

Lunaria annua 'Chedglow'

Hardy biennial flowering April to early May with wonderful chocolate leaves and lilac flowers, growing to 3' (1 m) or a bit more. Decorative seed heads persist with translucent discs that can be used in dried arrangements. Sow 2 seeds per single pot outside in a shady sheltered spot and plant out into the border in full sun or part shade when large enough. Sown in the spring, plants will flower the following year, but late sown (June onwards) will take a second year to flower. These will hybridise with other Lunaria close by. The leaves are eaten by rabbits.



Average seed contents: 80

Ammi visnaga 'Mystique'

Hardy Annual. Large domed umbels of green and white flowers supported by fine feathery green foliage in the summer about 2-3' tall (60-90 cm), very good cut flower (strip most of the leaves off as these turn yellow in a vase) and a very good foil for colourful summer flowering dahlias in sunny but moist soil. Sow the very small seed thinly in either early autumn (August-September) or in the spring (March-April) directly into well drained soil in a sunny position.

P&P for any number of seed packets ordered alone within UK £1.50, or destinations within the EU or Switzerland please add £2.50 P&P

Avon Bulbs - how it all works

Generally: This catalogue is **valid** through the spring of 2017 and expires in May. The **prices** are for single bulbs unless it says otherwise, and can be found under each description. Please remember that this catalogue was written in late November, bulbs we offer are listed in the expectation, not the certainty, that we can supply them. Nature, the weather, and the perishability of living bulbs means that we sometimes cannot supply things that we list, despite our best intentions. If that happens we make **no substitutions** for items out of stock without contacting you for authority unless they are from our Collections, within these we do make suitable substitutions if required.

If, when you get your parcel, you are concerned at all by its contents please contact us as soon as you can. We do occasionally make mistakes, but we do make no specific guarantees about our bulbs except that we believe them to be viable, suitable and correctly named. We cannot **guarantee** flowering - though we would expect it in the first season from the vast majority of the bulbs supplied under reasonable growing conditions.

Ordering: You can order by post or phone. Alternatively you can browse this catalogue but place your order on-line using the Quick Order facility on our website. Whichever way you do it we will **acknowledge** your order, ideally by email but if not, by post. Please check that your order has been correctly entered onto our system.

Paying: Please provide a means of payment with your order. This could be your **credit or debit card** details (the card payment is then taken as the parcel is despatched), similarly a **Not to Exceed cheque** – made out like a normal cheque but undated and with no values. Across the top of the cheque you instead write “ Not to Exceed £XX” where the value is a slightly greater than the amount you expect to pay. We will then complete it at the time of despatch for the correct total. Or a normal **cheque** for what you believe is the right amount (which we will bank when the order is placed). If the card payment is not authorised at the point of despatch your order will be held up whilst we contact you and obtain your correct card details.

Delivery – When? There may be some delay before we can send you your order. The Galanthus (Snowdrop) orders will be dealt with first, probably in late February / early March, the other bulb orders from this catalogue in mid-late March and early April.

How much? The basic **postage charge** is £4.95 for all parcels within mainland UK, but there are exceptions. For addresses in the Scottish Highlands, the Scottish islands, Northern Ireland and Island destinations such as the Channel Islands, Isle of Wight, Isle of Man and Scillies we may need to add a surcharge dependant on parcel weight, these are generally sent by Royal Mail or ParcelForce.

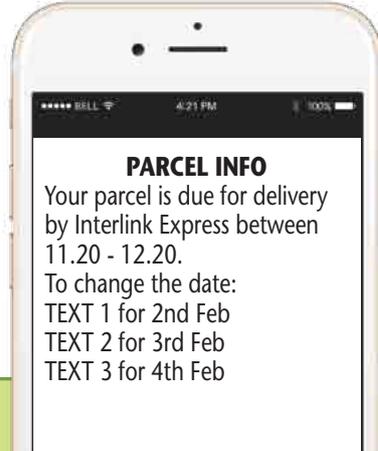
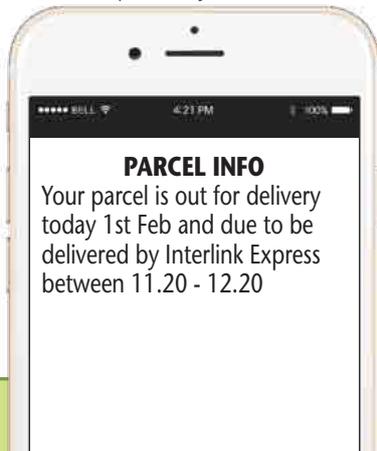
In detail: Parcels under 2 Kg are sent by the Royal Mail, Snowdrop orders usually by First Class post, other bulbs by Second Class post. Parcels heavier than 2 Kg will be sent to mainland UK addresses with our carriers, Interlink Express, on a next working day service (no deliveries on a Saturday). Providing us with your **email address** will result in a message from us to confirm despatch of the parcel (whoever the carrier) and will also result (for the parcels sent with Interlink Express) a further advisory message to allow you to track the delivery. From Interlink also (if you provide a **mobile telephone number**) you will be sent a text message telling you exactly when your parcel will be delivered (to within an hour) and you can reply to this to change that time slot. Whichever service we use we do recommend that you provide us with **Safeplace** leaving instructions. The delivery will then not require your signature but will be left where you nominate.

European Customers: We can supply bulbs to Europe. The minimum postage for parcels weighing less than 2Kg is £10.00 for parcels sent by Air Mail. Larger parcels vary in cost depending on destination country, details of these price bands can be found on our website.

Collecting your Order: You may like to collect your order from the nursery or at a show we are attending (with two weeks' notice preferably) and avoid a delivery charge. This can be arranged for a mutually convenient moment when the bulbs are available.

Make your delivery convenient to yourself!

You will receive an email however your parcel is sent (as long as we have your email address and your computer settings allow our messages to get through) but in addition if we have your mobile phone number and your parcel is handled by Interlink Express you will get an automated text message to let you know when they will be making the delivery (within a 1 hour window). If that is not convenient you can put off the delivery to a more suitable moment using set answers to that text. However if we have your Leaving Instructions regarding a Safeplace to leave the parcel you need not be at home at all!



GIFT TOKENS

These can be supplied at any time of year for any value over £15.00. We will send it with an attractive card with your message, adding the recipient to our mailing list for future catalogues. Our new ones can now be ordered and used on-line as well.



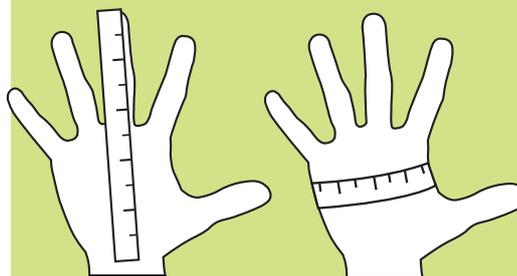
Maxiflex Gardening Gloves

More and more people now garden in gloves. These are hard wearing and comfortable gardening gloves that still allow you to feel what you are doing but most importantly one's hands do not sweat inside them. Washable (inside out in a cool wash). The Medium size fits nearly everyone here, though a Small size is offered too. Include these with an order for £4.90 each (sent on their own please add £3.00 postage).

669 - 01	Maxiflex gloves (Medium)	£4.90
669 - 02	Maxiflex gloves (Small)	£4.90



Glove sizing: If unsure this is a guide – finger to wrist, or right round the palm, whichever the larger measure – under 8" we think the Small (7) size is likely to fit best, over 8" our Medium (10) may be better.



If undelivered, please return to sender:
 Avon Bulbs
 Burnt House Farm
 Midl Lambrook
 South Petherton
 Somerset
 TA13 5HE

Please recycle this item after use
