

Mail Order Catalogue **Spring 2019**

PLANTS AND BULBS
TO FLOWER IN THE SUMMER
AND SNOWDROPS

www.avonbulbs.co.uk



Winners of...

30 Gold Medals at Chelsea in 31 years (1987 – 2017)



WELCOME TO THE AVON BULBS SPRING CATALOGUE 2019

You will see (from the back cover) that our Events list for February 2019 is more extensive than ever. Ten different events, some of which are over two days (over what are only four weekends in February) in four different countries which will test our organisation! If you are going to any of these events do remember that we can bring orders for snowdrops, made in advance with us, to collect there. Hopefully we will see a good number of our snowdrop fancying customers somewhere during that month. There is a range of snowdrops that we shall be taking to these events that are not listed in this catalogue as there are often only a few of each, but we do like to have things up our sleeves to surprise you with!

A year ago I wrote in my introduction that we would not be attending the Chelsea Flower Show in 2018 after 30 years of continual involvement. That decision did not prove catastrophic and we managed to provide better displays and do more business at the other flower shows as a result, consequently we have not applied to exhibit at Chelsea in 2019 either. Times are changing and with that we too have to try to adapt and change.

One cannot however avoid wondering what effect the current political upheaval will have on us and life in general. We rely very little on other suppliers for what we list in this catalogue. All the special snowdrops and the majority of the bulbs are grown here so all the usual determinants such as supply, transit times, phytosanitary certificates, CITES documentation and exchange rates are still all known factors. My next catalogue, written and priced up post Brexit when many of these will still be unknown concerns me much more.

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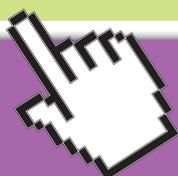
Burnt House Farm
Mid Lambrook
South Petherton
Somerset
TA13 5HE

'Glorious Galanthus' A2 Poster 666-80

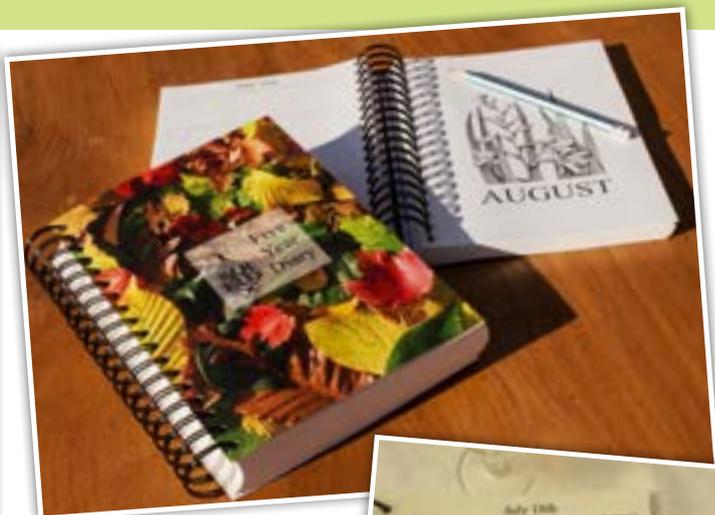
A2 in size (4 times A4!) and double sided so you can choose to see either a more formal array of all the wide variation in form that is displayed by snowdrops, or a more varied and expansive array of less formal shots. Or when you need a change you can turn it over! No varieties are duplicated so it may even help you identify ones of yours for which labels have become lost! All the photos are named. Supplied in a cardboard wrap so as to avoid any creases and so posted separately.

These cost £5.00 when posted to UK addresses.

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. If you do receive but never read the newsletter do Unsubscribe, we do not want to fill your Inbox unnecessarily!



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 770g 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.

£17.50 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



Insect friendly Plants

We believe the plants where we have highlighted the name in yellow to be particularly beneficial to pollinating insects such as bees, butterflies, moths and hover flies.



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.

Moortown



Phil Cornish



Philippe Andre Mayer



These are the Crown Jewels of the winter garden - the number of cultivars and interest in new forms of Galanthus continues to grow year on year. All these are propagated and grown on the nursery, a very labour intensive process which is reflected in the price - and many are strictly limited in their availability and sold on a first-come-first-served basis. Very occasionally mistakes do happen, in the process of growing these plants over the past 3 or 4 years or when potting dormant snowdrops which all look alike, but if this happens these will be rectified.

All are flowering size and will either be in flower or will have flowered when we send them, having been carefully knocked out of the pots in which they have been individually grown for the past five months with their root systems intact and carefully packaged along with their label.

Plant them out immediately unless the ground is frozen, water them in and protect them from the most severe weather till they have recovered.

Numbers in brackets after the price refer to the page number for a more detailed description in the snowdrop 'bible', "Snowdrops" by Matt Bishop, Aaron Davis and John Grimshaw.

COLLECTOR'S SNOWDROPS

South Hayes



Pieces of Eight



ALAN'S TREAT

22-107

A lovely poculiform *G. nivalis* from Normandy with perfectly formed and boldly green splashed outer segments. The only bulb from the original clump of only three bulbs (in 2003) not given away, hence the name.

£35.00



ALISON HILARY

22-16

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

£17.00 (248)



AMY DONCASTER

22-294

A wonderful *G. plicatus*, given to John Morley by Amy Doncaster in 1988. It has a small round ovary below which hangs a beautifully marked flower, the puckered outer segments, lined at their tips by green lines with a dark inner marking that fades away from the apex.

£28.00 (161)

▲ Photo credit: Judy's Snowdrops



ANNE OF GEIERSTEIN 22-334

Named after the heroine in Sir Walter Scott's 'Maiden of the Mist' you will have to read what it says in 'Snowdrops' with regard to its history as space does not allow repetition here, but it is well connected to the oldest collectors. A small neat plant with thickly textured outer segments, the ovary slightly paler than the marking on the inner segment.

£25.00 (225)



Photo credit: GAP Images

BEANY

22-287

From the Oppenheimer estate at White Waltham in Berkshire, this is a gloriously large and distinctly round form of *G. elwesii* with bold green tips to the outer segments, and dark green marks on the inner segment.

£40.00



BETTY HANSELL

22-295

Found in Norfolk in 1994, this has pale green lines on the oddly pointed outer segments meeting at the apex. All the inner segments are darkly marked with a large X and well grown plants can produce two scapes when growing happily.

£30.00 (298)



ARIADNE

22-349

In mythology the bearer of twins. A selection of *G. plicatus* ssp. *byzantinus* found in the copse here. When settled in this exhibits two large flowers on each scape making a very floriferous clump. Mid to late season.

£75.00



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, a clump of which looks amazing.

£18.00 (228)



BIG EYES

22-222

A hybrid, originally from a remote seedling swarm of *G. nivalis* X *G. plicatus* in Berkshire. Better we think than Grumpy which is a memorably named convolute that is much in demand, this one more resembles a clown's face.

£30.00



BITTER LEMONS 22-351

A seedling found under the same tree under which Midas appeared. This colour change hybrid is much earlier to flower and is usually over well before Midas is at its best. Few available.

£120.00



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 flowered and boldest of the green tipped *G. elwesii* available. When seen as a clump it is quite simply unforgettable.

£30.00



COTSWOLD BEAUTY 22-327

From the garden at Lower Slaughter which used to be owned by E B Anderson and selected by Phil Cornish, in 1993, often with multiple flower stems with slim, long flowers with the inner segments apparently forming a narrow flared tube marked with a handsome green cross.

£20.00 (250)



BLONDE INGE 22-109

Probably the first snowdrop discovered that exhibits the green ovary with a yellow inner segment colouration. That original find was near Cologne in Germany and the name is a reference to a song title. The degree of yellowing is often variable, even within the same clump, who knows why?

£15.00 (94)



CARYL BARON 22-220

A desirable green marked seedling found at Avon Bulbs. The narrow outers are splashed dark green at the tips and there is a dark green inner marking as well as an extended spathe. There is a connection to Byfield Special, named as it is after Michael Baron's late wife who was thrilled to be given some when it was first named in her honour.

£35.00



DEER SLOT 22-125

I regard this as a 'natty' snowdrop, sharply dressed with neat lines and very precise and defined dark double green markings on the inner petals, brilliantly described as looking like deer hoof prints. A large flowered snowdrop, clumps of which were much admired in Primrose Warburg's garden at South Hayes.

£35.00 (173)



DIGGORY 🏆

22-161

Found in a population of *G. plicatus* near Wells, Norfolk by Rosie Steele and Richard Hobbs in 1993 and named after Rosie's late son. Instantly recognizable, even from several steps away with thickly puckered and distinctly inward curving outer segments, the resulting effect being quite lantern-like.

£30.00 (147)



£.A. BOWLES 🏆

22-275

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

£45.00



ELMLEY LOVETT

22-187

Selected by Olive Mason on account of its size and markings, this hybrid snowdrop can also show faint green spots at the tips of the outer segments.

£20.00



DRAGONFLY

22-279

From the wonderful Veronica Cross who also gave us the amazing *G. Wasp*, so the theme continues. This is bigger and much more substantial with very long outer segments which sway and dangle on long pedicels to show the dark green marked inners.

£60.00

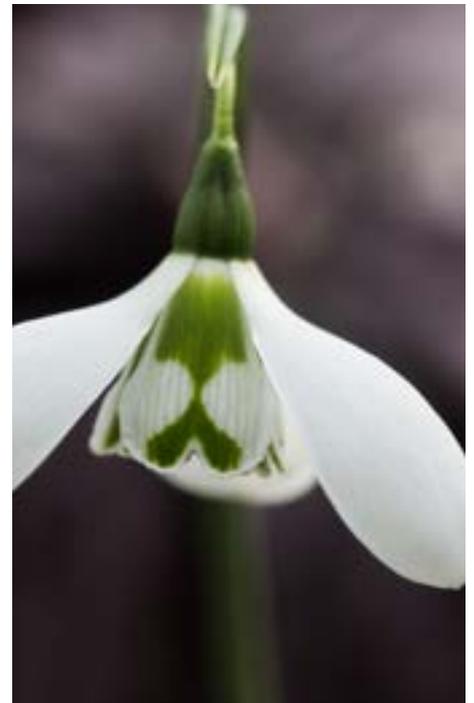


EGRET

22-245

From the well know Galanthophile Phil Cornish, this selection of *G. nivalis* exhibits amazing curled back outer segments like the feathers of that charming bird and is much coveted by all who see it.

£45.00



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 crisp, dark, waisted marking on the inner segment.

£40.00 (300)



FANNY 22-189
 With large, smooth long outer segments faintly tipped in pale green at the tips, some plants here amazingly produced three scapes. And at the RHS February show in 2015 the Frances for whom it was named, noticing some of her namesake on our sales table, introduced herself memorably, "I see that you have my Fanny".
£15.00 (278)



FEODORA 22-300
 A lovely, glowing pale yellow *G. nivalis* with a distinctly long ovary, selected by Nicholas Top somewhere in the middle of Germany.
£75.00



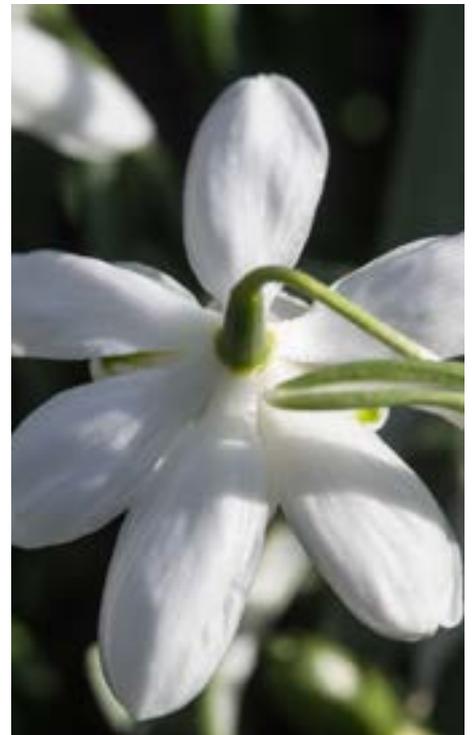
FIELDGATE SUPERB 22-168
 A late flowering form that has broad outer petals, pinched at the tip to provide body and curvature to the outer petals, the inner markings form a green X, the bottom half usually solid green, the upper part fading away from the apex.
£25.00 (252)



FENSTEAD END 22-103
 Found by Chris Grey Wilson in the village of the same name in Suffolk when he moved there in 1987, an early flowering form with noticeably upright foliage and inner segments nearly all covered in green.
£15.00 (182)



FIELDGATE FORTE 22-190
 A seedling of *G. Modern Art* raised by Colin Mason in the 1990s. Called Forte on account of 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)



FLOCON DE NEIGE 22-191
 French for snowflake, and named for its resemblance when seen from above to a microscopic view of a snowflake with its six evenly spaced outer segments. A *G. nivalis* double cultivar selected by Mark Brown in Buckinghamshire in the mid 1980s.
£40.00 (114)



FLY FISHING

22-178

This stock is derived from a seedling selected at Avon Bulbs over 10 years ago, characterised by its incredibly long, slender and gracefully arched pedicel, one that is perhaps longer than any other snowdrop, early flowering.

£25.00



GABRIEL

22-221

An early flowering form of *G. elwesii* monostictus, usually in flower in December identified at Avon Bulbs in the 1980s. The name comes from its habit of raising its outer segments in a wing-like manner when brought into warm conditions.

£18.00 (174)



GODFREY OWEN 🏆

22-238

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

£25.00 (205)



FRANZ JOSEF

22-276

A neat and handsome double form of *G. elwesii*, from an old garden in Germany with attractive inner markings and green-tipped outers.

£40.00



GEORGE ELWES

22-29

A vigorous plant with large flowers on upright stems, the inner segments marked by an elongated and tapering X. The spathe is also unusually long. A hybrid of *G. elwesii* x *G. plicatus* (unusually the outer leaves have flat margins and inner leaves have explicative margins each derived from these different parents). Found at Colesbourne Park and named after Carolyn Elwes' late son in 1979.

£15.00 (265)



GRAVE CONCERN

22-284

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

£50.00

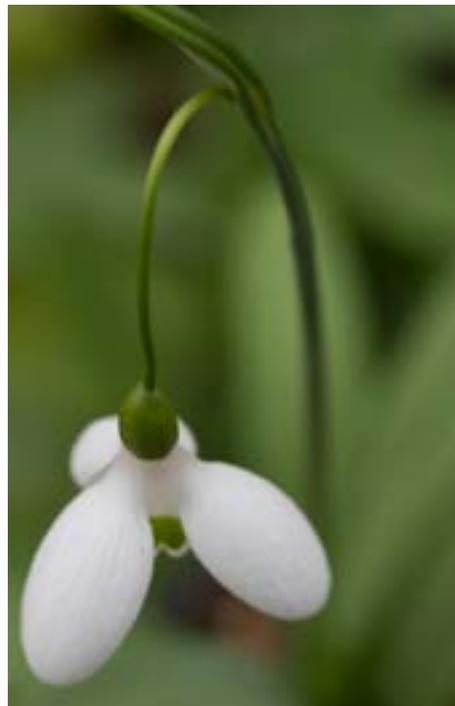


GRAVITY

22-225

Another spontaneous seedling that arose here at Avon Bulbs under some hazelnuts. Large and heavy flowered with long, shapely outer segments. The inner markings are a strong upside down V over the apical notch and smudges of pale green towards the base.

£45.00



GREEN COMET

22-256

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

£20.00



GRUMPY

22-219

This form of G. elwesii was found and named by Joe Sharman in 1990 in Cambridgeshire. The solid looking flowers exhibit a claw like tip to the base of the broad outer segments, and when they open the inner segment markings seem to mimic a green downturned mouth below green eyes. A memorable name and one that appeals to beginners in the snowdrop journey, perhaps with a disapproving spouse in mind?

£30.00 (202)

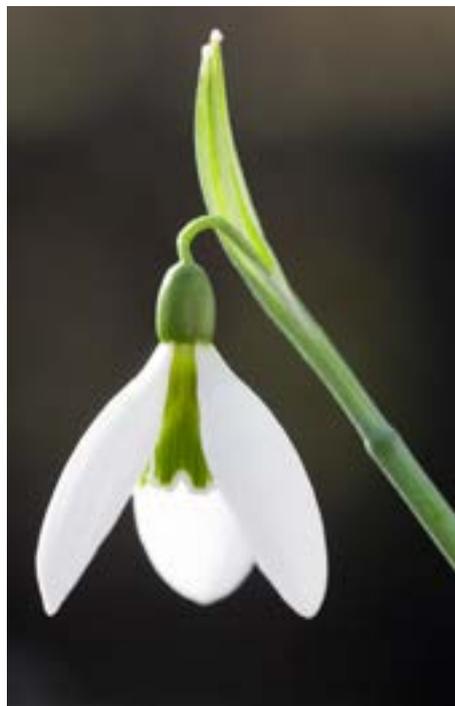


GREEN BRUSH

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



GREEN MAN

22-93

An easy and vigorous hybrid G. nivalis x G. plicatus with a bold green inner marking somewhat resembling a figure. A charming mid season snowdrop, though not as big as is suggested in the Snowdrop 'bible'.

£15.00 (252)



HERCULE

22-148

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

£15.00

Photo credit: GAP Images



HOLLIS 22-302

A seedling of *G. elwesii* from the garden of Dr Dowling Munro, this very early form is at its best in November / early December and when established has large, elegant flowers.

£15.00



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, the green stripe strongest on the mid line of the outers.

£25.00



JUBILEE GREEN 22-278

One of the best hybrids to come from John Morley's garden at North Green with large single flowers and stunning, lettuce-green leaves.

£25.00



JACK IN THE GREEN 22-324

A find from amongst a swarm of *G. elwesii*, this form has unusually bright glossy green leaves and two marks on the inner segment. Alluring and well named by Micky Little here at Avon Bulbs.

£30.00



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.

£20.00 (191)



JUNE BOARDMAN 22-79

A selection made by Bill Boardman and named after his wife, it was originally found as a seedling in a garden near Norwich. A yellowish, *G. plicatus* hybrid seedling, with long narrow outer segments.

£40.00



KENCOT KALI 22-226

A selection of *G. elwesii* from an Oxfordshire garden found by Joe Sharman. The inner segments are marked with a bold green cross in which the topmost area has been filled in, but more noticeably they have very long, rather narrow outer segments tipped in pale green seemingly looking even bigger on what is not a tall plant.

£35.00



KILDARE 22-149

An Irish customer picking one of these up in February at the RHS show was heard to remark about her requirements of a snowdrop - "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.

£20.00 (279)



LITTLE BEN 22-157

A fine, large flowered form with rounded petals on a flower that bends the arching pedicels, often with two scapes per bulb so one soon builds up the flowering display.

£15.00 (234)



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 and very neat looking plant.

£20.00 (for 2) (81)



KRYPTONITE 22-305

The December flowering virescent *G. elwesii* is when established, one of the best green snowdrops of recent years. Does best in a sheltered position.

£120.00



LONG JOHN SILVER 22-325

From Veronica Cross' garden and from the same patch that provided *G. Pieces of Eight*, both remarkable snowdrops. Under a deep green ovary a handsomely large flower with the strong chevron marking associated with the Trym seedlings. Few available.

£120.00

▲ Photo credit: Richard Bashford



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 typically wide grey-green leaves.

£20.00



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.

£30.00



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 strong green splashes, the inner segments are marked in a pale olive-green.

£40.00 (185)



LUCY 22-307

Another fabulous seedling from Richard and Val at Woodchippings, home to some of the best new snowdrops hybrids. This one has stunning green marked outer segments.

£75.00



MARJORIE BROWN 22-203

A late form of *G. elwesii* discovered by Ruby Baker in 1999. Quite unusually wide of leaf and these are noticeably glaucous and distinctly bluish, the flowers are large and late to emerge.

£10.00 (176)



MATT BISHOP 22-308

A gift from the author of *The Snowdrop Book*, this large virescent form of *G. elwesii* is at its best in early December, and so heavily washed with green as to appear luminous

£100.00



MIDAS

22-309

Midas was found here at Avon Bulbs the same week that we hosted the Immortals' Lunch Party in February 2011. This was an event to which we asked everyone that we could contact who had had a snowdrop named after them to come along and meet up, it was a very convivial day. The seedling Midas, then in its first flowering, was secreted away under an upturned pot in the copse where much snowdropping was being enjoyed, hidden away from the eagle eyes of those discerning visitors! It was 6 years later that we sold any. A changeling snowdrop - the green markings turn a glowing golden yellow a few days after first opening. We think that it is a x valentinei hybrid and better in spring sunshine.

£85.00



MORETON MILL

22-260

From the garden of Eddie Roberts in Shropshire, this is a tall and strong poculiform form, so all white with 6 even outer segments. A hint of apricot close up to the ovary is often associated with such poculiform types.

£30.00



MOORTOWN

22-232

A lovely snowdrop which came to us from David Bromley in Shropshire. it is big flowered, bold and very white as well as being an excellent doer.

£25.00



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 very showy flowers, curvaceous even, with thickly textured petals opening widely to show the green stained inner segments. Early flowering and a must-have plant.

£35.00



MOTHERING SUNDAY

22-314

The name of this hybrid, which occurred at Avon Bulbs, was suggested by Steve Owen, who saw it in flower very late one year after a cold winter. Under such conditions the flower can hold on until March. But with Mothering Sunday on the 31 March in 2019 these will be well over by then! A very neat, crisp, narrow apical inner mark.

£35.00



MOYA'S GREEN 22-246

A stunning *G. elwesii* with long outer petals seemingly banded in a strange pale olive green found by Moya Green, and one of the most distinctive green marked snowdrops of recent years.

£45.00



MRS THOMPSON 22-88

Large well grown bulbs of this variety have the capacity to produce very large flowers with 5 to 8 outer segments, occasionally with several flowers fused on one pedicel. Presented to the RHS Scientific Committee in 1950 for discussion and still entertaining us now.

£15.00 (236)



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.

£20.00



MR STINKER 22-315

From Veronica Cross and named for one of her terriers, Tinker, officially Mr Stinker! This bizarre form of *G. nivalis* has petals like a bunch of green claws.

£80.00



NATALIE GARTON 22-43

A strong growing *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.

£15.00



PERCY PICTON 22-104

Deserving pride of place. A very long pedicel and arching stem means that this flower (or sometimes two as it regularly throws a second scape which flowers at the same time) is hardly ever still. The inner is marked by a bright green X. Named after the father of Paul Picton of Old Court Nursery (famed for their Michaelmas daisies) near Malvern in 1999.

£15.00



PHANTOM

22-262

Aptly named, as the origin of this unique snowdrop is a bit of a mystery, as are its flowering habits. When established (and in some years) they are capable of producing two flowers, the first a large, beautiful 6 even petalled poculiform, the second more normally arranged with green markings, one basal and one apical like *G. plicatus* ssp *byzantinus* - how does that happen?

£50.00



PHILIPPE ANDRE MEYER 22-229

Mark Brown's discovery, and named for a generous previous employer in France. This is a *G. plicatus* hybrid and one of the best Trym type seedlings. Showy and quick to increase when planted in the ground, though not tall.

£50.00



REFLECTION

22-331

A vigorous selection of *G. elwesii*, late to flower, with intriguing inner markings, the green X half dark below and pale above as though mirrored.

£22.00



PHIL CORNISH

22-228

A stunning selection from the garden of the great galanthophile Phil Cornish. Quite pointed and Trym-like with wonderful all green inners, the outers also heavily marked with pale green.

£50.00



POLAR BEAR

22-270

These form enormous bulbs when dormant. The flowers, with rounded segments, are held on very short pedicels, so seem to look outwards. The inner markings clearly separated. Very late flowering and quite charming.

£17.00



REVEREND HAILSTONE

22-179

A majestic and early form of *G. elwesii* from Anglesey Abbey often at its best by the end of January with stems sometimes over a foot tall when most other snowdrops flowering at the same time are considerably shorter.

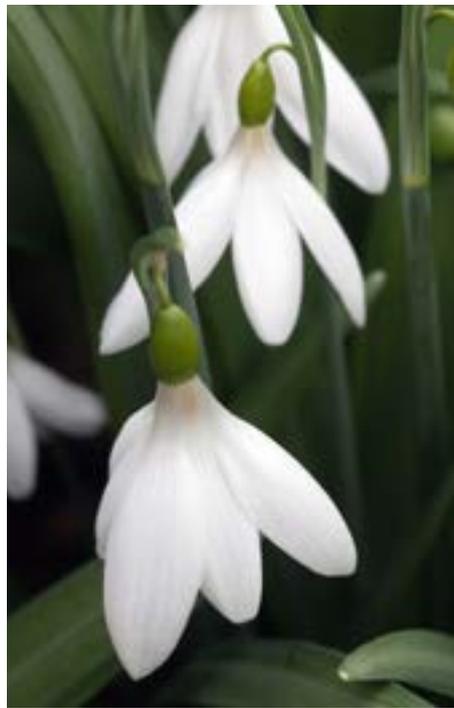
£15.00



ROSEMARY BURNHAM 22-263

A plant that made the return crossing from British Columbia to much acclaim when first exhibited in 1998, it is so covered in pale green lining on the outer petal that the effect is of a pale green wash.

£35.00 (187)



SERAPH 22-283

The original clone was selected and named by Daphne Chappell and then believed to be lost. Found again by Phil Cornish some years later this is a fine, even outstanding, poculiform which grows well.

£60.00 (270)



SNOW ANGEL 22-321

A gift from Viscountess Boyd of Ince Castle and found in her wonderful garden. This form of *G. nivalis scharlockii* has unusually large spathes, they don't even fit into my image!

£65.00



SENTINEL 22-150

From the Backhouse garden at Sutton Court, collected by Daphne Chappell, a large flowered and erect mid-season hybrid with bold blooms the outer petals of which are ridged along their length, the inners show two separated distinct areas of green.

£20.00 (270)



SMARAGDSPLITTER 22-320

An outstandingly early flowerer, usually at its best in December. This form of *G. elwesii* also has arrow shaped green markings on its outer segments.

£50.00



SOUTH HAYES 🏆 22-244

One of the first seedlings of *G. Trym* of which there are now so many. This arose in the garden of Primrose Warburg in 1992 and was named after her death to commemorate her and its origin in one of the most important snowdrop collections of the time. The midline of green follows the curl of the outer petal and exaggerates the triangular, pagoda-like shape of the flower whether viewed from the side, or above.

£35.00 (282)

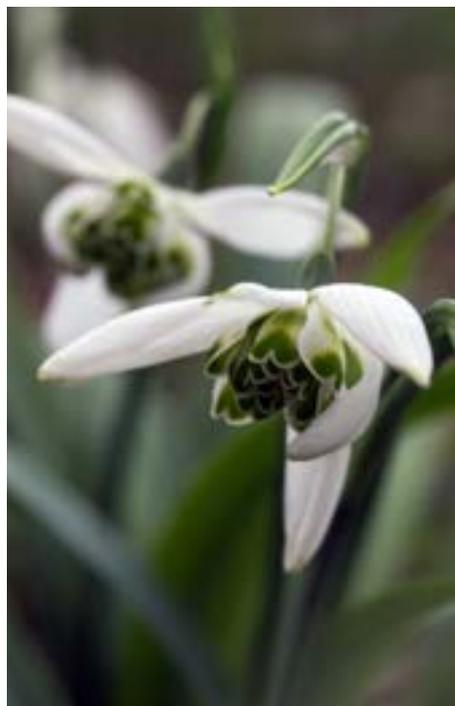


SPRITE

22-197

A seedling originally found about 10 years ago on the nursery, and all these arise from that single bulb. All green inner segments are revealed when the outers rise, they are painted with 5 or 6 green lines on a slightly clawed petal.

£15.00



STARLING

22-208

A seedling from the copse at Avon Bulbs, possibly *G. elwesii* x *G. Hill Poe*. It has long, rather pointed, boat shaped outer segments on a flower that faces outwards on a very short pedicel, the result of which means that one looks directly into the dark green marked inner segments which appear quite star-like. Very long lasting in flower.

£15.00



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.

£30.00

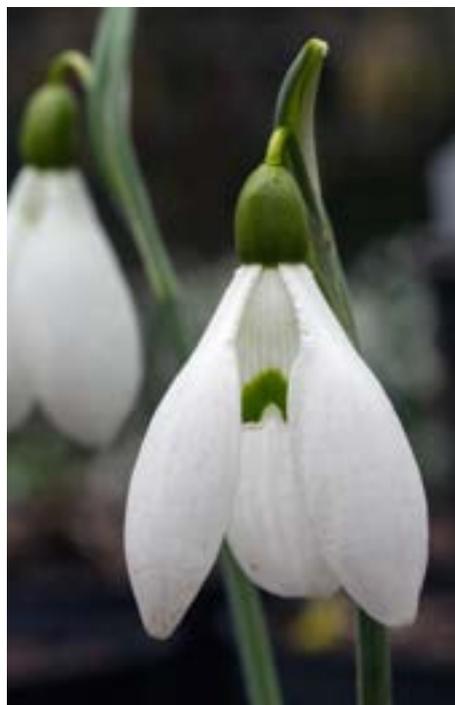


ST ANNE'S

22-45

A neat snowdrop with a rather pointed shape. much longer than it is wide with attractive markings that can be clearly seen as it flares slightly. It's name comes from the one time home of Lady Barbara Buchanan near St Anne's Church, Sutton Bonington.

£20.00 (268)



SUTTON COURT

22-211

From a house of that name in Herefordshire, a house connected to the very 'planty' Backhouse family. A strong growing and stately snowdrop, robust and bearing comparison to the stalwart S. Arnott.

£20.00 (242)



TRIMMER

22-217

Another of the superb seedlings from the Trym stable. This is early to flower with green marked outers that slightly reflex as they mature adding to its charm.

£35.00



TRUMPS 🌷

22-164

A stunning and vigorous hybrid first spotted in John Morley's garden by Matt Bishop in 1999. Early to flower with bright green heart shaped markings on the outer segment and increasing freely. As the flower matures it becomes more flared and pagoda-like in shape. One of the best green-tipped snowdrops and a must have variety for every snowdrop garden.

£20.00 (283)



TRYMPOSTOR

22-182

This is shorter, earlier into flower and much more vigorous, so probably much more rewarding. First shown at the RHS in Vincent Square in 2011, where it was awarded a Preliminary Commendation.

£30.00



TRYMLET

22-198

A very vigorous hybrid with plicate leaves and generous splashes of green in all the right places, soon bulking up to a floriferous clump.

£25.00



TRYZM

22-265

Appearing under some larch trees on the nursery as a self sown seedling this was about equidistant from G. Trym and G. rizehensis, hence the name that indicates a provenance from both perhaps. A dainty and delightful hybrid with matt green leaves and boldly marked outer segments.

£35.00 (for 2)



TURNCOAT

22-354

From Richard Bashford and Valerie Bexley's collection at Woodchippings in Northamptonshire, a desirable green marked beauty.

£60.00



▲ Photo credit: Matt Bishop



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 plenty of vigour and four outer segments rather than the normal three as well as a bold inner marking, making this a snowdrop to covet.

£40.00

WALTER FISH 22-51

An idiosyncratic plicate form that arose in the ditch at East Lambrook Manor gardens in 1988 and found by Andrew Norton. Long, narrow, flat spoon shaped outer segments with green markings around the apex but not at the base.

£35.00 (161)

WENDY'S GOLD 22-05

Most of the original stock of this 'benchmark' golden snowdrop was lost after it was first discovered in the 1980s, but a couple of bulbs were kept back and given to nurserymen, who ensured through twin-scaling that this wonderful snowdrop survived. The yellowness varies somewhat on situation, spring sunlight seems to encourage true yellowness.

£30.00 (271)



VERONICA CROSS 22-292

Full of superlatives. One of the best snowdrop hybrids to come from one of the best snowdrop gardens. A new *G. gracilis* x *G. Trym* hybrid which has amazingly green marked segments which lift and flare dramatically as the flower ages. "To die for" is one of Mrs Cross' trademark sayings and all who see it agree.

£105.00



WASP 22-101

Veronica Cross obtained this from a seedling population at Sutton Court, Herefordshire. Aptly named with a long, narrow silhouette which dangles on a long pedicel with plenty of green on the inner segments.

£20.00 (271)



YASHMAK 22-263

David Baker named this as the pale 'eyes' reminded him of hidden eyes peeping out from behind a muslin veil, though the word seems not too exact now. The 'eyes' in question are small yellowish dots at the base of the inner segments on an otherwise unmarked flower.

£25.00 (204)

DUG SNOWDROPS



This section includes the snowdrops that we supply as dug plants supplied 'bare rooted' (as opposed to ones that have been grown for sale in individual pots) These have therefore been grown and produced in a more natural manner (through splitting of clumps and from offsets) which is a less expensive way of producing good plants, as a consequence they are generally less pricey than the ones in the Collector's section.

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

All these are supplied 'in the green' (which means that they are dug in growth, possibly still in flower (so that we can check their identity), packed and posted out quickly 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

The exact origin of *G. Atkinsii* is something of a mystery. It is one of the first hybrid forms to flower and is one of the great garden-worthy snowdrops on account of its vigour and stature – it is sterile and rapidly forms good clumps from offsets, noted for its earliness, tall stems and elegant long outer segments.

£13.00 for 3 (225)



BLEWBURY TART 22-18

Found as a single clump in Blewbury churchyard in 1975 where it was an oddity amongst other ordinary single and double *G. nivalis*. This sterile double opens nearly flat and tends to look outwards revealing nearly all green inners. A strong grower so clumps form quickly (but also need splitting up with some regularity).

£9.00 or £24.00 for 3 (120)



CHEDWORTH 22-74

Found in Chedworth, Gloucestershire by Daphne Chappell in Helen Milford's old garden. Reckoned to resemble *Straffan* in appearance but missing the second flowering scape and usually flowering rather later. In our experience it is more vigorous and easily one of the best to spread itself quickly.

£13.00 for 3 (80)



CURLY 22-201

A relatively short late-flowering hybrid with pale green tips to the outer segments each marked by a broad X on the inner segment with the arms of the X fading towards the ovary. And is there a reason for the name? That is due to the foliage being unusually upright and attractively arched.

£6.00 or £16.00 for 3 (277)



ELFIN 22-83

A small flowered plant with a noticeably broad spathe. The emerging green tipped flowers point skywards till they open resulting in a very elvish appearance. Whilst individual plants are small they are vigorous and increase to fine clumps. Originally found by Phil Cornish in Warwickshire.

£8.00 or £22.00 for 3 (107)



GREENFIELDS 22-71

Another good Irish snowdrop with a deep green heart-shaped inner marking and often throwing a second flower stem. It is a mid-late season flowering hybrid and very vigorous, soon making fine showy clumps.

£7.00 or £19.00 for 3 (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 £22.00 for 3



MAGNET 🏆

22-27

An iconic snowdrop connected to James Allen of Shepton Mallet. The distinctive feature is the long pedicel (the spur connecting flower to stem) which allows the flower to dangle and sway with great grace in any breeze. 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 £15.00 for 3 (235)



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 thick petalled flowers, the inner segments marked by a bold X marking and with typically broad glaucous blue green foliage.

£13.00



LADY BEATRIX STANLEY 🏆 **22-25**

First circulated in the 1950s this was officially renamed by Richard Nutt in 1981 to mark its connection to Sibbertoft and Barbara Buchanan's mother. A neat double flower seemingly in the grip of the longer fang-like outer petals. Smaller statured but increasing well when left alone.

£8.00 (296)



LITTLE MAGNET **22-132**

When first found on thin chalky soil, the small clump was well named. When moved to Somerset from Blewbury the better growing conditions mean that now the name is quite un-descriptive. But it still has an exceptionally long pedicel and a 'chunkier' version of *G. Magnet*

£8.00 or £22.00 for 3 (234)



MELVILLE (OF HORT) **22-158**

Presumably from Scotland and originally named in 1879 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! Here it is a very early flowering snowdrop even before *G. Atkinsii* and marked by a very long ovary.

£6.00 or £15.00 for 3 (82)



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 relatively wide matt green leaves showing a faint central stripe and quite 'dumpy' flowers topped by a pale ovary.

£9.00 (50)

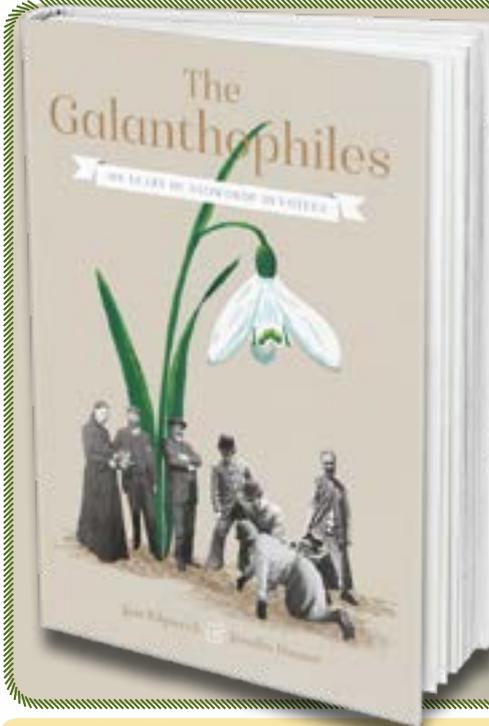
Photo credit: Clive Nicholls



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. Its characteristics are that it is tall mid season flowering snowdrop with thick petalled, very white, and handsomely proportioned flowers, scented (when it is warm) and vigorous to increase (although it never sets seed). A superlative snowdrop.
£14.50 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 adorned by two scapes above broad plicate foliage.
£10.00 (157)



The Galanthophiles

The *Galanthophiles* by Jane Kilpatrick and Jennifer Harmer brings to life the characters and forgotten experts whose knowledge and skills contributed in the last 160 years of snowdrop collecting.

Available from book retailers in a hardcover and thoroughly recommended.



STRAFFAN 🏆 22-42
 Sometimes the best tunes are played on the oldest fiddles, and this reliable, late flowering plant was probably originally found in the Crimea then taken first to Ireland before finding its way on to England. Two stems grow from the largest bulbs, providing a white carpet en masse.
£7.00 or £19.00 for 3 (241)



VIRIDAPICE 🏆 22-44
 Found about a century ago in the north of Holland, so they have provenance but these are still one of the strongest growing of the green and emerald tipped snowdrops, with a particularly erect habit.
£9.00 or £24.00 for 3 (108)



Snowdrop Greeting Cards

Two new sets of these popular cards, great as simple thank you and especially as condolence cards.

£1.50 each or £13.00 for either set of 10

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.

Each set comprises a full 'head and shoulders' image of the snowdrop as well as a composite card showing all the nine together on one card. The two sets are sold as 10 cards and cannot be swapped about or selected from further.

The **'Firm Favourites'** collection comprises the most popular nine cards from the 30 that we previously offered. If you have a favourite card from past offerings that is now not displayed we may have a few left that you can specifically request.

The **'Viridian'** Collection is an entirely new set.

Cards ordered alone will be charged £3.00 P&P

The Viridian Collection

81	84	87
82	85	88
83	86	89



666-90



666-81

666-84

666-87



666-82

666-85

666-88

666-83

666-86

666-89

'Viridian' Set - (10 cards) 666-91

Viridian

666-81 Big Eyes	666-84 Dragonfly	666-87 E A Bowles
666-82 Green Tear	666-85 Madelaine	666-88 Midas
666-83 Pieces of Eight	666-86 Rosemary Burnham	666-89 Veronica Cross

Firm Favourites

666-50 Alan's Treat	666-65 Angelique	666-51 Blewbury Tart
666-62 Blonde Inge	666-54 Diggory	666-73 Magnet
666-76 S. Arnott	666-77 sandersii	666-79 Straffan

The Firm Favourites Collection

50	65	51
62	54	73
76	77	79



666-92



666-50

666-65

666-51



666-62

666-54

666-73

666-76

666-77

666-79

'Firm Favourites' Set - (10 cards) 666-93

Your views would interest us!

We have a short 10 question survey accessed from the Home page on our website which we would ask you to complete, but if you don't use a computer we would still like your answers so this is the paper version to post back to us if you can (maybe with an order form?). **Please be aware that some pens smudge on this coated paper!**

Many thanks.

We think that our catalogue and service sets us apart from others but at a time when mail order catalogues might be seen as rather old fashioned, slow and costly and when so much is available Online we would be very interested to know what you think about our Catalogues and aspects of our service.

1. How much do you value the Avon Bulbs catalogue?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5* A great deal | <input type="checkbox"/> 4* A lot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3* A moderate amount | <input type="checkbox"/> 2* A little |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1* Not at all | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable |

2. How long do you keep the Avon Bulbs catalogues after they arrive?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> More than a year | <input type="checkbox"/> Until the next one comes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I dispose of it after I have used it | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It goes out with the recycling within a week or two | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable | |

3. How do you use the Avon Bulbs catalogue (remember that we publish two each year)

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Usually to order from (without using the website) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Usually to make an order in conjunction with the website |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To see whether there is anything at all that I am interested in |
| <input type="checkbox"/> They are of no interest (let us know - we can take you off the mailing list easily and let us save on waste!) |

4. Do you also receive other bulb suppliers' catalogues and read them? So how do you feel the Avon Bulbs one compares?

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I don't receive any others (Honestly?!) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I like the Avon Bulbs catalogue less than others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I like the Avon Bulbs catalogue more than most others |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I like the Avon Bulbs catalogue most of all |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know or can't tell |

5. Where do you think that we could improve on our catalogue?

6. We send out a monthly email Newsletter, are you a recipient of it?

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No (in which case please ignore the next question) |
|------------------------------|---|

7. If you read our Newsletter most of the time that we send it out, what do you think about the frequency with which we send it?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> It is about right | <input type="checkbox"/> I would be happy to receive it more often |
| <input type="checkbox"/> This frequency is plenty, once a month is enough | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I don't even notice it (do you know that you can Unsubscribe and we will not send it to you?) | |

8. More generally, what is your view on the cost of plants by Mail Order from Avon Bulbs?

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> They provide poor value for money |
| <input type="checkbox"/> They provide reasonable value for money |
| <input type="checkbox"/> They provide good value for money |

9. How do you anticipate your interest in gardening going in the near future?

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Declining | <input type="checkbox"/> Remaining steady | <input type="checkbox"/> Increasing |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|

10. If you have a particular irritation or frustration in any aspect of what we do (or don't do) and feel it is an area that we could improve upon, can you describe it for us?

Plants and bulbs to flower this Summer

From here on please use the order form on P53/54

ACTAEA

Tough, rabbit proof woodland perennials from North America and Europe that provide scent, height and interest in moisture retentive soils in shade.



PACHYPODA MISTY BLUE 90-02

A selected form of unusual woodland perennial. They grow to a multi-stemmed clump with unusual blue-green foliage above which it has clusters of white flowers in the spring. In the autumn it has weird looking white fruits with a black dot on red pedicels known as 'doll's eyes' (which are poisonous). 1 litre pots. Allow 24" (60 cm) spread
April - June • 18-30" (50-70cm)
£7.00

Photo credit: www.visionspictures.com

SIMPLEX BRUNETTE 🏆 90-01

Lovely dark leaved plants (as long as they receive some direct light) but also shade lovers which love heavy moist soils, so very different from our usual fare that requires "well drained" soils. They used to be called 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 go on to have interesting seed heads into the winter. 1 litre pots. Allow 24" (60 cm) spread

Sept/Oct • 60" (1.5m)
£8.00



AGAPANTHUS

Perennial plants that originate in South Africa, but many hybrid forms are now available providing the potential to have a display of Agapanthus in the garden or pots from late June through to September. There are fully deciduous (and hardy) ones and fully evergreen (and tender) forms and much that is between the two. It is not always apparent where the divide lies! Do be aware of your growing conditions so that you choose the right variety for your particular aspect, soil, latitude and altitude. All factors to take into consideration with regard to hardiness.

Most importantly they are sun lovers. They are also very drought tolerant, but do often perform better in wet summers. If the soil is good they will make huge clumps. New flower buds are formed the previous autumn so they flower better after a long damp autumn. They should be with you for many years so apart from hardiness, select your purchases by colour, height, form of the flower, abundance of flower and flowering time. Well established plants only need further division when flowering diminishes. They are very versatile, ideal for seaside gardens, are not palatable to rabbits and relatively unaffected by slugs and snails.

The evergreen forms derive from plants from milder and wetter parts, they tend to have



Agapanthus trial at RHS Wisley

broader and fleshier leaves and because they keep their foliage through our winters they require some protection. At the other end of the scale the deciduous forms tend to have narrower foliage and shed their leaves before the winter so they are considerably hardier. All the same, it is still worth mulching their 'crowns' with something in the late autumn – if this is soil-enriching manure all the better as they are hungry feeders, and therein lies the problem for plants in pots - the restricted root run is fine whilst there is some nutrition available, but when the compost has been depleted of nutrients they will not flower. Also the compost in pots suffers more from freezing and thawing than the soil at any depth unless you provide

some added protection during the winter. There has been a trial in progress at RHS Wisley of the hardy forms of Agapanthus which is worth a look.

There is a new pest of Agapanthus that we suggest that you look out for, the Agapanthus Gall Midge, so new that it has yet to be properly named. It is uncertain yet whether this is just going to be an annoying pest that we are going to have to learn to live with, or how devastating or manageable it might be. But I feel that it is a case in point for better biosecurity on imported plants. We have taken all the flowers off all our stocks for the past two years as a precaution. If you have a problem this seems to be a chemical free means of helping to break the cycle. There is scant information anywhere about it, just type in Agapanthus Gall Midge on the Internet to find out what little there is.

The indication as to whether plants will be supplied from pots or from division is offered as a guide only, it cannot be guaranteed upon. Plants from division (ones which we have divided from bigger 'crowns' dug on the nursery) may take a year to settle in. But after a year plants from division and plants from pots will be very similar, all other things being equal.

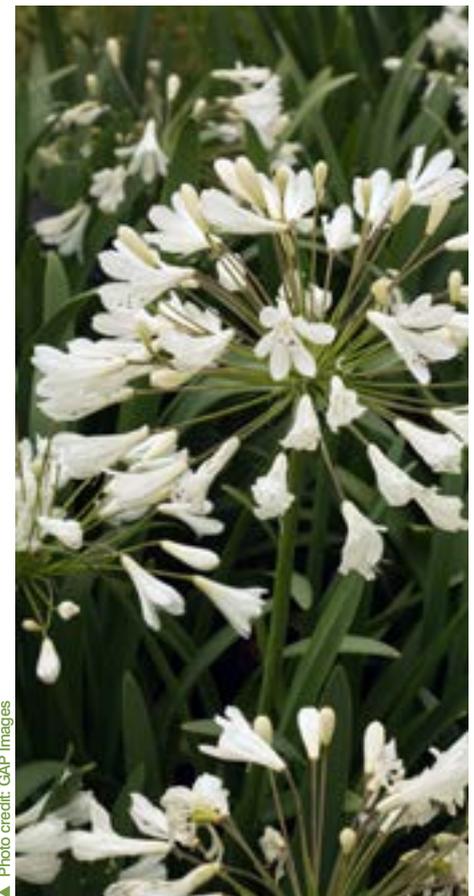


Photo credit: GAP Images

ALAN STREET

2-26

A beautiful dark flowered seedling identified by Alan here some 12 years ago, we first listed them in 2013. Nearly indigo coloured flowers produced in profusion on a dark stem, the heads not so full that you do not see the individual flowers, outstanding. The foliage is deciduous. One of the very best at the Wisley trial. Plants from division.

July / August • 30" (75cm)
£10.00

AQUAMARINE

2-04

Rather earlier than most and altogether shorter with tennis ball sized heads on erect stems, the flowers are deep dark blue with a purple hue. Vigorous but smaller headed and with quite short foliage these are very suitable for pots or towards the front of a border for earlier flowering. Divisions.

July • 24" (60cm)
£6.50

ARCTIC STAR

2-32

Early flowering (for Agapanthus) as we sometimes have these flowering for Hampton Court in early July. Large headed, in arctic white on short thick stems. The foliage is greyish green and quite broad, semi evergreen but tougher than that sometimes suggests. Divisions.

July • 20" (50cm)
£7.50



ARDERNEI 2-18
Narrow leaved and deciduous, so tough. White flowered with a pink tinge as they fade, the flower stalks holding the flower are reddish brown adding depth and contrast. Vigorous plants with numerous long flower stems, providing mid season display. The flowers, rather bigger than an orange, delicate looking rather than dense. From divisions.

August • 30" (75cm)
£6.50



CASTLE OF MEY 2-23
An early mid season form with lovely mid blue flowers with a violet hue, the midrib of each flower darker. Slightly larger headed than most with many stems on established plants. Deciduous unless the winter is very mild. From division.

July/Aug • 30" (75cm)
£6.50



FLOWER OF LOVE 2-54
A deep mid blue flower from inky buds over broad strappy deciduous foliage, nothing unusual in that perhaps but this relatively short variety performed very well in the trials and as 'standard' Agapanthus go this is about as good as one gets. From pots

Early • July 16" (40cm)
£6.00



HEADBOURNE (OR PALMER) HYBRIDS (BLUE) 2-07

Derived from a strain that was developed with hardiness in mind by Lewis Palmer at Headbourne Worthy in Hampshire in the 1940s. These are a 'swarm' – so expect some variation, the flower colours vary around a mid blue and in height, flower size and leafiness they also vary slightly. Generally long stemmed with orange sized heads providing an extended season of interest in the border. They are deciduous, mid season flowering and supplied from division.

July/Aug • 18-30" (45-75cm)
£15.00 for 3



HEADBOURNE HYBRIDS (WHITE) 2-08

White flowered plants from the strain above and with the same general characteristics. Also from division.

July/Aug • 24-30" (60-75cm)
£6.00



INAPERTUS 2-10

Very tall and late flowering with long clean stems that support the more pendulous flowers several feet above the foliage. Dark blue coloured with long tubed flowers. The foliage is more evergreen than most and we mulch the crowns with straw as a precaution, but we have had some cold winters and they seem unaffected. Far to the north they may need more protection still. Plants from division.

Aug/Sept • Up to 5ft (150cm)
£6.50



Insect friendly Plants

We believe the plants where we have highlighted the name in yellow to be particularly beneficial to pollinating insects such as bees, butterflies, moths and hover flies.



ISIS 2-15
 Late mid season flowering with deep blue flowers, the stems characteristically angled towards the sun. The heads are not very big but are produced in profusion. This is not a widely grown form but ours came from Beth Chatto and she knew a good plant. Named after the stretch of the Thames. Deciduous and from division.
August • 26" (65cm) £6.50



NORTHERN STAR 2-35
 Stiff stemmed, these slightly angled from the upright topped by large rounded heads, often with a second flush of flowers on a second shorter stem, the individual blue flowers showing darker purple stripes down the petals. Deciduous and from division.
July • 30" (75 cm) £6.50



SILVER BABY 2-55
 A dwarf form with an evergreen habit. The lovely flowers are silvery white with a pale blue edge. Very suitable for the front of a sunny border or in pots, but may need to be protected in the coldest areas in winter. From pots
July • 12-15" (30-40cm) £6.00



LOCH HOPE 🏆 2-21
 A vibrant mid blue flower held on typically angled stems quite late in the season. There are various forms of what is supposed to be Loch Hope being sold, these are the real deal and really do flower well despite a poor reputation provided by the impostor! Deciduous and from division.
Aug/Sept • 36" (90 cm) £6.50



SHADES OF GREY 2-58
 Slightly shorter and later than Windsor Grey which it resembles, our local florists whom we supply with flowers love them best of all. From division.
Late August • 26" (65cm) £6.50

A collection of smaller statured Agapanthus 999-347



SILVER BABY X 3



SILVER MOON X 3



AQUAMARINE X 3

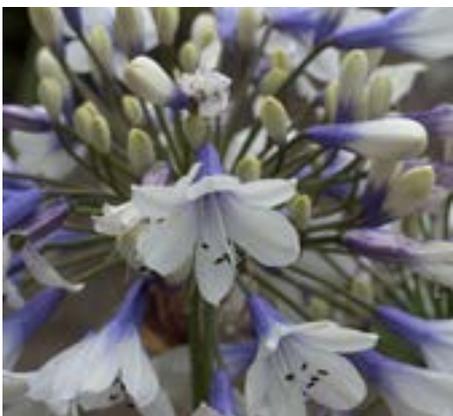
9 plants (6 from pots) for £52.00 (save £5.00)



SILVER MOON 2-56

Deciduous and variegated with large pale blue flowers set off by the apparently silvery foliage resulting from the broad white edge to the leaves. From pots.

July • 28" (70 cm)
£6.50



TWISTER 2-57

Very unusually these open white and then develop deep blue bases to the flower whilst the tips remain white and flare. More evergreen and will be requiring protection in the coldest gardens. From pots

July / August • 18" (50cm)
£6.00



WINDSOR GREY 2-20

Refined large headed long stemmed plants with dense heads of silver grey, turning slightly pink as they age. From the Saville Garden near Windsor. Late mid season flowering with semi deciduous foliage, from division.

August • 30" (75cm)
£6.50

ALBUCA



NELSONII 52-05

Ivory and green flowers face upward in a tall spire, opening from the bottom of the spike. The waxy flowers are strongly almond scented. Attractive glossy succulent foliage is present through much of the year. Big pale green bulbs, Tough and drought tolerant so good in pots in a conservatory.

June/July • 30" (75cm)
£6.00

ALLIUMS

The more typical and most 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 flowering later in the summer. 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 sunny day in late summer or early autumn.



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 when they 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 but sterile clone, brilliant in every regard.

July/August • 12" (30cm)
£6.70 for 3 (small clumps)



ANGULOSUM (TALL FORM) 153-64

Standing twice as tall (as the form above) when in flower, and bearing a secondary flush of flowers on stems that are taller still than those of the first flowers. Apart from the flowers looking very similar they hardly look related.

August • 24" (60cm)
£5.00 (small clumps)



CANADENSE 153-71

A very tolerant Allium that seems to cope with both very dry soils right through to our heavy clays. Fine leaved with pinkish white flowers, quite often sporting bulbils in the flowering head.

**Summer • 18" (45cm)
£4.50 for 3**



LENKORANICUM 153-21

A quirky wispy plant that is native to Azerbaijan and reportedly only discovered in 1987, it increases steadily both forming clumps and increasing from seed in a sunny bed in well drained soils. It lasts ages in flower and in the second half of the year never seems not to be in flower.

**Summer • 12" (30cm)
£4.50 for 3**



SENESCENS SSP. GLAUCUM 153-30

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

**Summer • 12" (30cm)
£4.50 (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 of the A. ligtu will probably provide a mixture of colours. They tend to grow away early when in pots with only protection from harder frosts 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 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 them with the base of the foliage just buried, on a gravelly base.

**June/July • 24-36" (60-90cm)
£5.50 or £16.00 for 3 (pots)**



LIGTU FRANCES 4-08

The emerging leaves are strongly yellow margined from emergence throughout the early spring so clumps of these are outstanding for their foliage alone early in the year. Whilst the colours on the form above will vary, these are all the same, an attractive pale biscuit pink.

**June/July • 24-36" (60-90cm)
£5.50 or £16.00 for 3 (pots)**

AMARINE

The result of crossings between the Nerine and Amaryllis families. They require full sun and (like Nernes) quite shallow planting. If you have a cold garden perhaps it might be better to pot them, but there has been a sizeable display of them for some years against a wall at RHS Wisley which should provide some assurance as to their hardiness.



EMANUELLE 94-01

Broad very pale pink petalled with a darker midrib.
**Sept-Nov • 24-30" (60-70cm)
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3**

Insect friendly Plants

We believe the plants where we have highlighted the name in yellow to be particularly beneficial to pollinating insects such as bees, butterflies, moths and hover flies.





PARIS 94-02

Darker pink and generally with a darker throat than this photo suggests. The difference between Nerines and Amarines is quite subtle, they just look like Nerines on steroids and are a bit more evergreen.

Sept-Nov • 24-30" (60-70cm)
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3

ANEMONE



WILD SWAN 157-35

First identified by Elizabeth Macgregor on her nursery and thought to be of hybrid origin, one parent being the autumn flowering white Anemone japonica. In flower intermittently from June to late October with compact crowns over plants with very fibrous roots which seem not to like it too dry, and are far less invasive than the Anemone japonicas! For sun or partial shade with broad white flowers, the backs of which are washed in blue, showing more strongly when the sun is lower. Allow 18" (45cm) spread. Well established plants in 1 litre pots sent out in growth ready to flower this summer.

June-Oct • 18" (45cm)
£10.00

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.



CLARET 1-02

Dark flowered and with leaves of a darker hue. These are from well established plants in 1 litre pots.

May/July • 24" (60cm)
£6.00



FLORENCE 1-11

Pink flowered with a touch of lavender that sets it aside. From 1 litre pots.

May/July • 18" (45 cm)
£6.00



MAJOR 1-04

A large flowered form, the individual heads are bigger than a 50p piece (more officially the 'petals' surrounding the flower are not the flowers, just bracts). Green and white with pinkish highlights. From field grown divisions.

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. These from 1 litre pots.

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. From field grown divisions.

May/July • 15" (40cm)
£6.00



VENICE 1-10

Adorned by deep plum coloured bracts, in flower for ages during the early summer. These are from 1 litre pots.

May/July • 15" (40cm)
£6.00

BEGONIA



SUTHERLANDII 9-07

Small leaved and adorned by strings of many smaller flowers, 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 a plant 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 enough to leave out in 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.

Summer
£3.50

BRUNNERA

Incredibly useful in many of our displays these are plants with architectural merit. We use them to soften up the more upright displays of regimental looking bulbs on our spring and early summer displays. They are members of the Bugloss family, enjoying slightly damper conditions in part shade.



JACK FROST 18-04

With lovely broad leaves, mainly white but 'crazed' with green and overlapping attractively to cover the ground well with sprays of tiny bright blue flowers in the late spring adding a smokey haze. Well established plants in 1 litre pots.

April/May • 18" (45cm)
£6.00 or £17.00 for 3



LOOKING GLASS 18-05

Whilst the leaves on Jack Frost are veined in green (which breaks up the silvery leaf effect) those of Looking Glass are almost entirely silvered. The same blue flowers follow in the spring.

April/May • 18" (45cm)
£6.00

CANNA



IRIDIFLORA (X EHEMANII) 7-04

A big bold plant with broad deep green banana-like 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 or be kept dry, 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+)
£7.50

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 might prefer some shade in summer but a root cooling bark mulch on ours this summer kept them quite happy despite the heat. Yellow and orange flowers highlighted by the bright red bracts within which they are held. Bright green foliage. They would also be happy in damp part shade, as they are at Rosemoor in Devon growing among ferns. Plants from divisions.

Summer • 18" (45cm)
£7.00 or £18.50 for 3

CRINUM



MOOREI ALBUM 14-07

Easily confused with x powellii album, but the moorei form is rather less 'rigid' and softer looking with more flared flowers in white with a tinge of pink at the petal tips. They are also nicely fragrant. 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, and these bulbs may not flower this summer although it is difficult to be certain, only available in limited numbers.

Summer • 3' (90cm)
£7.00

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.



LAMBROOK GOLD 15-32

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

Aug • 24" (60cm)
£6.50 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 iconic plants that most people recognise from afar for good reason.

July • 36" (90cm)
£4.00 for 3



PAUL'S BEST YELLOW 🍷 15-37

We first admired this plant when we visited Dick Fulcher's nursery in Devon a while back when he claimed that this was the best new Crocosmia. I think that he was right and have yet to see anything better. 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)
£7.50 for 3



QUEEN MARY II 15-35

Purplish in bud but a warm apricot colour in flower with darker foliage. Producing lots of flower. Easy and increasing so if you need something vigorous and substantial this is the one to go for. The RHS Plant Finder thinks this is the same plant as C. Columbus.

Aug/Sept • 30" (75cm)
£6.00 for 15 or £9.00 for 25

CYCLAMEN



HEDERIFOLIUM RED SKY 51-33

A deep red flowered selection of the (normally) pale pink autumn flowering cyclamen. Purple - pink flowered exactly as the image shows with dark foliage marked with paler veining. Plants from pots.

Sept - Nov • 5" (12cm)
£5.50

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 one's efforts with zingy displays in jaunty colours that go on for months through the summer 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.

There are not too many cultivation suggestions but if you can follow some of them you will get far better plants. 1) Plant them in the sun and don't do it too early, better to plant into warm soils a bit late than cold soils too early. 2) Provide plenty

of feeding once they are growing well, so incorporate muck or slow release plant food when you plant them and/ or liquid feed in the summer. 3) They don't want to be too dry, especially when flowering profusely so drench them regularly if you can in hotter weather. 4) Deadheading will repay you handsomely so cut off the spent flowers (they are pointed in shape, the new buds are more rounded) or just cut them fresh for the house, more will follow.

Gallery Series: A hybrid group of dahlias characterised by a freely branching habit resulting in a large number of flowers, which with some deadheading will continue to flower for months. These are all fully double which obviously provides more petals and therefore a greater mass of colour.

All are in the 'Decorative' Group.



Art Deco

ART DECO 🏆 26-80
Two tone flowers with the inside of the petals a warm apricot colour and the outside a brownish orange hue. The combination is great. The flowers about 5" (13 cm) across with dark green foliage.
16" (40cm) tall
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3



Art Nouveau

ART NOUVEAU 🏆 26-81
Two toned flowers with the inner surface of the petals a lilac pink colour and the outer surface a richly deeper purple hue. It arose as a sport of Art Deco. The flowers about 5" (13 cm) across with dark green foliage.
16" (40cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3



Monet

MONET 26-82
More compact and rather earlier into first bloom, these have pale lilac tipped flowers which are otherwise a rosy white, slightly yellower at the centre. The flowers are about 5" (13 cm) across with dark green foliage.
13" (35cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3



Pablo

PABLO 🏆 26-83
Warm yellow in the centre gives way to salmon-orange at the outer edges of the flower. These are larger, about 6" (15 cm) across with dark green foliage.
14" (37cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3



Salvador

SALVADOR 26-84
Light peach pink with rose highlights in the centre, the flowers between 4-6" across (10-15cm) with dark green foliage.
14" (37cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3



Serenade

SERANADE 26-85
Pale lemon yellow softening as they open to a very soft yellow, 5" (12cm) across over dark green foliage.
14" (37cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3



Vincent

VINCENT 🏆 26-86
A luscious apricot pink hue with flowers about 4.5" (12 cm) across, with deep green foliage.
24" (60cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3

Allegro



Photo credit: www.visionspictures.com

Melody Series: This series was introduced in the year 2000 and followed the Gallery series. They are slightly taller though still quite compact in appearance, very floriferous with an emphasis on a strongly branched habit which provides a good plant shape, continuous flowering through the summer and a range of appealing colours.

All are in the 'Decorative' Group.

ALLEGRO 26-74

Somewhere midway in the range of salmon to orange, a part of the colour palette that defies easy description. The flowers about 4.5" (12 cm) across with green foliage.

24" (60cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3

HARMONY 26-75

Pale lilac coloured flowers with the centre of the flower rather paler, approaching white. The flowers are larger, about 6" (15 cm) across with dark, bronzy coloured foliage.

24" (60cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3

LATIN 26-76

Pale yellow coloured flowers. The flowers are about 4.5" (12 cm) across, the petals slightly more loosely held than others in the group with green foliage and slightly shorter in stature.

22" (56cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3

MAMBO 26-77

These have deep crimson red coloured flowers which are about 4.5" (12 cm) across, with deep green foliage. Again slightly shorter in stature. Very suitable also for pots.

22" (56cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3

SWING 26-78

Soft tangerine pink, if that is of help? Again not an easy one to describe. Sadly I find that many people that are put off by orange shades (I think mistakenly), the centre of the flower more yellow as they open, about 4.5" (12 cm) across, with more olive green foliage.

24" (60cm)
£4.00 each or £11.00 for 3

Pompon varieties: The heads on these look like round balls of colour about 3" (7 cm) across formed from tightly rolled petals

FRANZ KAFKA 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.

26" (65cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

GENOVA 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

30" (75cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

NATAL 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.

26" (65cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

Harmony



Photo credit: GAP Images

Mambo



Photo credit: www.visionspictures.com

Franz Kafka



Natal



Latin

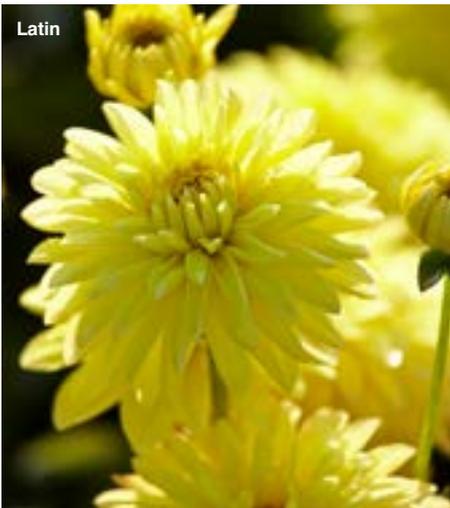


Photo credit: www.visionspictures.com

Swing

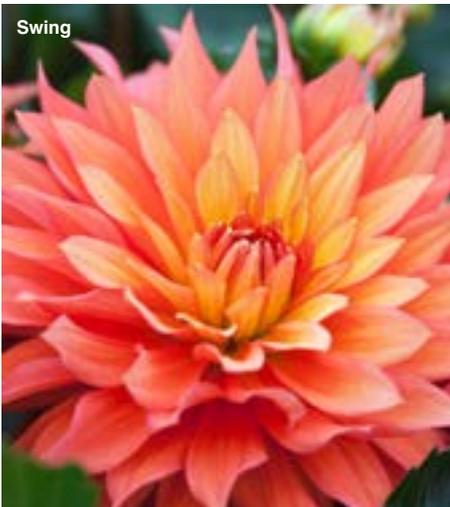


Photo credit: GAP Images

Genova



Happy Single Kiss



Single flowered varieties: For those that want to provide for the insects the single flowered forms with the exposed boss of stamens are better for that purpose.

HAPPY SINGLE KISS 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.

24" (60cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 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.

24" (60cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

HAPPY SINGLE PRINCESS 26-79

The palest shell pink with dark foliage, a great combination.

24" (60cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

Happy Single Princess



FIREBIRD (MIGNON) 26-69

Festooned with masses of rather smaller crimson-red, single flowers about 2" (5cm) across with a bright yellow centres these were one of the outstanding varieties for us in 2018 when they flowered and flowered. Simple, effective and floriferous.

Summer • 20" (50cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

Happy Single Flame



Firebird

Two old Favourites:

ARABIAN NIGHT (DECORATIVE) 26-13

Full headed, saucer sized flower heads the colour of ripe raspberries, becoming less dark as they fade. Not so tall as to require staking and always very upright in stature and less branched. Slightly earlier into flower than most of the other Dahlias.

30" (75cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

Arabian Night



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.

36" (90cm)
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

Bishop of Llandaff



Species types

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.

6-8' (180-230cm)
£7.00

coccinea var Palmeri



DISPOROPSIS

Similar in some ways to the Solomon's Seal in that the flowers are ranged up the stems appearing at the leaf axils in shades of white and happy in the same conditions of cool shade. Very hardy and unusual plants originating from the far East.



ASPERSA 36-08

Dark green leathery leaves with angled stems. These are decorated with hanging bells, apple green on the outside with purple speckling within. Quite creeping in its habitat of woodland shade. Chunky divisions from our clumps with nearly finger thick rhizomes.

May • 14" (40cm)
£4.50



PERNYI 36-04

White belled with green within and pleasantly perfumed. The stems speckled with brown and the leaves rather finer than the form above. The foliage is near evergreen and they really do best from a removal of last year's stems in the spring to tidy them up. Divisions.

May • 18" (45cm)
£4.50



TAIWANENSIS 36-06

Thicker leaved, with the leaves being more pleated than those of *D. pernyi* with white bells marked with purple within. The foliage is usually persistent, evergreen in mild winters. For woodland conditions in full or part shade. These from pots

May • 14" (40cm)
£4.50

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 1 litre pot, and may take a year to reach their full stature. Aim to get them established in sunny conditions so that they will in time have to 'work' to survive, growing them 'hard' results in stronger and more flower filled plants in due course and a sunny summer helps turn the flowers so blue.



In the Spring



In the Summer

PLANUM JADE FROST 17-06

White and cream variegated foliage with touches of pink, especially in the leaf bracts of the basal rosette highlighting the green, spikey foliage. The well branched upper stems are blue tinged in the summer with deep blue heads. Possibly not quite as tough as the non variegated forms but still hardy and eye-catching.

July-Aug • 20-24" (50-60cm)
£8.50



X BOURGATII PICOS BLUE 17-02

Exceptionally for many sea hollies these have large deeply lobed dark green leaves (a typical characteristic of one parent - *E. bourgatii*) before the flowers open, so it is a dual season plant with the flowers lighting up the late summer months thereafter.

July-Aug • 18-20" (45-50cm)
£8.50



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. The x zabelii epithet covers the hybrid forms that are crosses between *E. alpinum* (from the north and east of the Mediterranean) and *E. bourgatii* (found in the west and south of the Mediterranean).

July - Sept • 32" (80cm)
£8.50



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. Another variety with blue stained stems.

July-Aug • 28" (70cm)
£8.50

EUCOMIS

Eucomis plants go dormant and disappear underground 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 so late they avoid any frost damage. The earliest flowering (E. zambesiaca) 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 tufty leaves, hence the common name for them – the Pineapple Lilies. They last ages in flower, and architectural seed heads 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. There is a trial of all the Eucomis being undertaken at the trial ground at RHS Wisley should you be interested.



ALOHA NANI

21-17

In this case the flower spike is pale apple green, turning a clear pale pink and then forming a long lasting seed head.

Aug/Sept • 12" (30cm)
£5.00 or £13.00 for 3



COMOSA

21-08

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

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



ALOHA LEIA

21-15

These are hybrids which have been bred in America for their pot plant trade, but we can grow them outside without them coming to harm (in the southern half of Britain at least). There is quite a lot that is potentially confusing about them. The Eucomis family are all southern African in origin, these were bred in America and have Hawaiian names! Short and upright with reddish - purple flowers over bright green leaves.

Aug/Sept • 12" (30cm)
£5.00 or £13.00 for 3



BICOLOR 🏆

21-05

Pale ivory green with a purple centre and hemmed around the edge again in purple. Massed and jostling for space on succulent stems, some of which are darkly freckled. As they set seed what were flowers swell and inflate to an architectural green cudgel that develops a purple and brown suntan as it ages. Of interest in the garden from August till the frosts. Glossy leaved and also good for pots. Big home grown bulbs certain to flower. Allow 10" (25cm) spread or 3 bulbs in a 14" (35cm) pot.

Aug/Sept • 18" (45cm)
£10.00 for 3



COMOSA (OUR DARK STEMMED SELECTION)

21-10

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

Aug/Sept • 30" (75cm)
£5.50



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. Shorter than most other E. comosa.

Aug/Sept • 18" (45cm)
£7.50



COMOSA SPARKLING BURGUNDY 21-12

A striking selection first identified in the 1960s with deep burgundy-purple leaves and flower stems which emerge darkly from the ground in sunny conditions in the early summer, turning more olive green by mid-summer. The flowers open quite creamy pink and turn dark. Cricket ball size bulbs. They must be grown in direct sun to achieve their true colouration.

Aug/Sept • 20" (50cm)
£9.00



COMOSA PINK GIN 21-11

Glowing pink, especially pretty 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 even more numerous as the bulb's girth grows, then through natural division, a clump develops. A brilliant plant, but produced only through splitting from our limited stocks, but big bulbs are what you'll get.

Aug/Sept • 4' (120cm)
£12.00



ZAMBESIACA (AUTUMNALIS) 21-04

Glistening in bright sunlight these produce cylinders of white flowers with a bright green top knot. These are the earliest into flower and then in either flower or decorative seed head for months. Plant the bulbs about 4" (10cm) apart. If you delay planting them till mid May they flower later and then will last much longer as they will be flowering in the cooling months after the summer heat. They often are, but really should not be called E. autumnalis, which is a different species.

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

GALTONIA

I am told that it may not be too long before we should be lumping these in with the 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 here, 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 or far to the north you may think about lifting the bulbs in November and storing them dry overwinter. On lighter soils they seed about. Plant the bulbs about 5" (12cm) apart, and beware of slug attack as they emerge through the soil.



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 that flower in the peak of the summer heat. They also grow away much more readily and vigorously when planted late rather than sulking in the still cold soil (where they might suffer from slug damage). Unhappy with bulbs produced in Holland we have found a source in Ireland of really healthy bulbs, and have grown them on for another year, so these are now big healthy bulbs. If you too have been disappointed in the past do try again, these will I am sure, surprise you.

Aug • 36" (90cm)
£5.00 for 3

GLADIOLUS



**CALLIANTHUS
MURIELAE** 🌷

24-19

Often still called *Acidanthera murielae*, a name that should now be updated to the one above. 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 usually over-winter and reflower 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 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 (at 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 furled buds emerge almost unnoticed to open to 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 yourself this summer?

Aug/Sept • 30" (75cm)
£5.30 for 20 or £12.50 for 50

There is a huge range of hybrid Gladioli. These shorter forms (which usually 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.



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)
£5.00 for 10 or £11.50 for 25



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)
£5.00 for 10 or £11.50 for 25



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)
£5.00 for 10 or £11.50 for 25



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)
£5.00 for 10 or £11.50 for 25



PAPILIO 24-13

These bulbs never get very big and in the ground they tend to 'move' in the soil so that 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. A dry summer in 2018 has resulted in a smaller harvest of these.

Late summer • 36" (90cm)
£6.00 for 3



PAPILIO DAVID HILLS 24-23

A named form in peach, very pretty but I don't think that they are likely to be as resilient a grower as the species, but I may be wrong. Who knows who David Hills is? We can find out nothing, and presume him to have been from the USA. These have done very well in the past year so we should not run out of them this year.

Late summer • 30" (70cm)
£5.00



RUBY 24-14

These were originally presumed to be a form of *G. papilio* when first sold at Hadspen years ago. Now they are thought to be more closely linked to *G. ecklonii*. Sturdy plants which are relatively vigorous and indeed seed around the nursery where their seedlings vary widely in shape and colour, suggesting that this is a plant of hybrid origin. Possibly less hardy than *G. papilio*, but more dramatic with hooded crimson flowers. In high demand and we still have only a limited stock.

Late summer • 36" (90cm)
£5.00

HEDYCHIUM

*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. These have survived past winters outside in Somerset with only a basic mulch, only *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, late in the year and on shorter stems, and planted there will need winter protection. However they will flower rather earlier than suggested in, and would love, a warmer greenhouse (even a huge pot protected in winter and stood outside for the summer). Fantastically fragrant.

Sept • 48-60" (120-150cm)
£7.00



DENSIFLORUM ASSAM ORANGE 27-06

Completely hardy, the same form as collected by Kingdon Ward in 1938, with many narrow scented orange flowers. Vigorous and increasing, and if you need a growing summer screen these would provide it and with that a jungly thicket at the same time. In wetter years we have had lots of seed formed, this year there has been none despite them flowering well, I wonder what their pollenators are?

Aug/Sept • 30" (75cm)
£6.50 for 3 or £10.50 for 5



DENSIFLORUM STEPHEN 27-08

The flower is much longer and looser than those of Assam Orange, yellow and orange in colour. In the late summer these colour up as the nights cool providing a golden yellow focus, spangled in some years by red seed heads. Taller and more upright on thicker stems.

Aug/Sept • 40-50" (100-125cm)
£6.50 or £16.00 for 3



SPICATUM 27-09

More tousled in appearance with individual flowers opening over several weeks this plant came to us from the late Patricia Marrow (of Papaver Patty's Plum fame) at Kingsdon. They recover well from intermittent division and inattention, evidently thriving on that treatment.

Aug/Sept • 6' (180cm)
£7.50



TARA 27-05

Fragrant, large orange coloured flowers in a loose arrangement on strong tall stemmed plants with exceptionally thick roots. Here they are grown in the open and unprotected except for some straw in winter but in cold gardens it may be wise to mulch them.

Aug/Sept • 6' (180cm)
£8.00

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 £3.50 each



BEN FHADA 49-02

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

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



BEN MORE 49-01

Deep orange flowers and a mid green foliage.

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



FIRE DRAGON 49-07

Grey leaved with orange – red flowers

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



GEORGEHAM 49-03

Big pink flowers with a creamy inner ring.

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



THE BRIDE 🍷 49-05
 White flower with a yellow centre and silvery foliage.
 Suggested planting interval 15" (38cm)
 Summer flowering • 10"-12" (25-35cm)



HEMEROCALLIS



KWANZO FLORE PLENA 19-09
 This daylily is, I believe, 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)
£4.00 or £10.50 for 3



MOLLIE GOULD 41-05
 More upright than coccinea with flowers that do not seem to open up so widely, but pretty in pink with deeper freckling
 Sept/Oct • 24" (60cm)
£5.00 for 3



WISLEY PRIMROSE 🍷 49-06
 Soft primrose coloured flowers over silvery foliage.
 Suggested planting interval 18" (45cm)
 Summer flowering • 12"-15" (30-40cm)



HESPERANTHA

You may be more familiar with this family when they were called Schizostylis (though how that was pronounced generally led to further discussion). They love fairly sunny conditions and whilst they do not want to be waterlogged in winter a damper summer suits them better than a dry one, typical of many South African plants. Certainly lots of humus in the soil is reflected in much better flowering. These are supplied as bare root plants with roughly pencil thick stems.



COCCINEA MAJOR 🍷 41-04
 About the reddest flower I know, and a colour that digital cameras seem not to be able to handle well.

Sept/Oct • 24" (60cm)
£6.00 for 3

HOSTA



PLANTAGINEA VAR JAPONICA 🍷 142-05
 Not really a bulb at all, but one Hosta that loves the protected space we can afford it in an unheated glasshouse, planted in the soil. In the late summer it is an island of ribbed pale green leaves with sprays of scented white flowers. Undemanding in a pot that one could bring into protection in the winter.
 Aug/Sept • 24" (60cm)
£7.50

IXIA

Ixias provide a colourful addition to the garden. But despite some people telling us that they grow them and that they self-seed and reappear regularly they are evidently 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.



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)
£4.00 for 10 or £9.00 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)
£4.00 for 10 or £9.00 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 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)
£6.50



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)
£6.50



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)
£6.50



WOL'S RED SEEDLING

145-15

Indirectly from Wol and Sue Staines, we have been increasing these intermittently when we have the time. Closer to red than orange and both the foliage and the flower spike are relatively fine and narrow. From division. Allow 15" (40cm) spread.

Aug/Sept • 30" (75cm)
£6.50

Photo credit: GAP Images

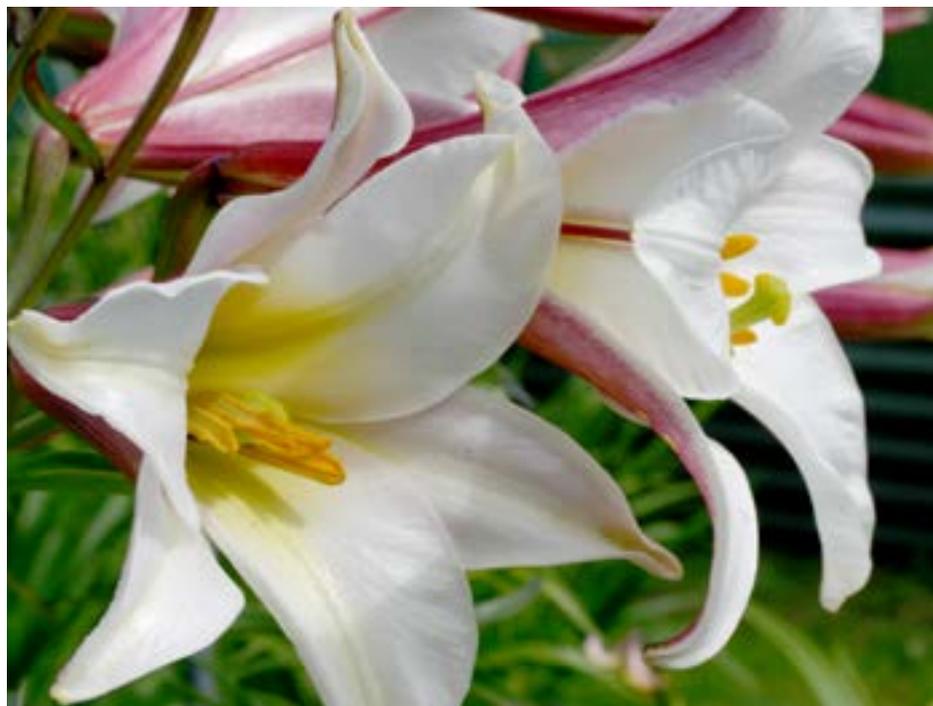
LATHRAEA



CLANDESTINA 71-05

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)
£5.50



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.

July • 36" (90cm)
£9.50 for 3

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.

Asiatic trumpet forms:

Tall lilies for borders with large hugely scented trumpets flowering in mid summer.



CONCA D'OR 31-49

Tall stemmed with trumpet shaped pale yellow flowers with a big scent. An Oriental x Asiatic hybrid but their habit is closer to the Asiatic types. Because of their stem length and the weight of flower these may well require support or staking. Happy in alkaline soils

July • 4-5' (120-150cm)
£9.50 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. The regale lilies prefer alkaline conditions.

July • 36" (90cm)
£9.50 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 pots and if you have some containers that provide a contemporary feel then these lilies will only enhance that look. Happy in alkaline soils.

June/July • 30" (75cm)
£6.50 for 3

Asiatic double forms:



ELODIE 31-30
 These are really semi double - in hot weather the 'double-ness' of the petals is less apparent. The colour is a wonderful soft pink with a degree of freckling and there is no pollen. The stems are strong and as long as the light is not too much only from one side they are generally upright and straight stemmed not requiring support. They are happy in alkaline soils.
 June/July • 36-48" (90-120cm)
 £6.50 for 3

Oriental forms:

More obviously hybrid forms, all of which have some 'Oriental' characteristics.



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 so 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. They may require staking where the light is not so good or very one sided.
 July/Aug • 36" (100cm)
 £6.50 for 3



CHERRY BABY 31-50
 Deep pink with a white band around each flower. Grown in the open they are generally self supporting although when wet the flowers are heavy so that puts a strain on the stems. Also less tolerant of very alkaline conditions.
 July/Aug • 30" (75cm)
 £6.50 for 3

Species forms:



HENRYI 31-20
 First found by an Irish explorer Augustine Henry, who in 1888 found it growing in the limestone gorges of Hubei province, China. Best planted as part of a group of other summer interest plants where you can take advantage of the fact that the naturally arching stems will find their own comfortable angle and 'blend' with their neighbours, forcing them into a more vertical inclination with stakes never works so well. Orange flowered with excised stamens. Happy in alkaline conditions.
 Summer • 48-60" (110-150cm)
 £9.50 for 3

NERINE

Late-flowering members of the Amaryllis family which flower in the autumn without their leaves and one of the parents to the Amarine offered earlier. 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 at the base of a south facing wall - then they flower best of all. Close observation of the flowers in direct sun will reveal their iridescent sparkle.

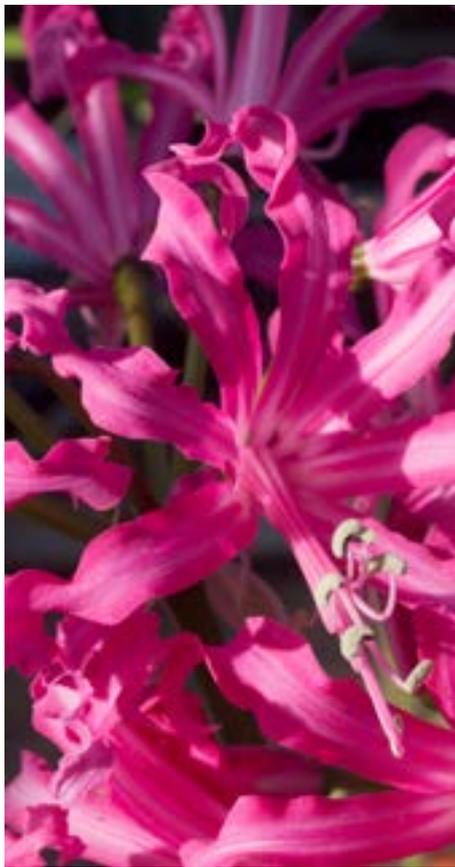


BOWDENII 🏆 33-04
 Very familiar pale fuchsia-pink flowers, flowering best if something can trap the warmth of the summer sunshine close by, a wall or tarmac drive maybe?. Shallower planting suits them best and they seem to flower better when somewhat congested. Flowering in the same year as planting is sometimes unimpressive, but be patient for spectacular autumnal fireworks.
 Sept/Oct • 15" (40cm)
 £4.00 for 5 or £7.00 for 9



BOWDENII BIANCA PERLA 33-26
 For those who find the sugar pink of the Nerines too much these have the habit of N.bowdenii (and with the deciduous nature comes hardiness) and white flowered with a tinge of green about them.
 Sept/Oct • 15" (40cm)
 £5.50 for 3

▲ Photo credit: Tony Lindhout



BOWDENII ISABEL 33-25

As above but with much deeper rose pink coloured flowers.

Sept/Oct • 15" (40cm)
£5.50 for 3



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. It is also winter dormant and just as hardy as N. bowdenii.

Sept/Oct • 18" (45cm)
£4.40 each or £12.00 for 3

ORLAYA



GRANDIFLORA 🏆 12-01

We use these as companion plants to the more 'stemmy' bulbs in our flower displays in April and May where their white flowers soften the more strident colours of the late spring flowers such as the tulips. These are plants that have been grown from seed to have become well rooted in 9 cm pots by March, ready to send out, for you to carefully pot them on to a larger size (probably 2 litre pots) to allow them to grow bigger before planting them out into a border in early May. They freshen up and light up the plants around them - why else does one tend to see lots of it in the gardens at the Chelsea Flower Show? We find them self seeding here but not everyone experiences that, sowing the seed in late August seems a must. They are attractive to rabbits.

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 a bit of shade, but we grow most of them in full sun! Some will get impressively tall in such shade, sunnier situations will result in shorter plants. They are sometimes stripped of their leaves 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 mauve, waisted bell-shaped flowers in whorls at each leaf axil up the stem. Graceful yet very tough.

June • 30" (75cm)
£10.00 for 3



ODORATUM 42-09

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

May • 18" (45cm)
£10.00 for 3



ODORATUM FLORE PLENA 42-12

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

May • 18" (45cm)
£10.00 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



SIBIRICUM 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 on the stem, a clump of them has something of the appearance of a miniature bamboo and bright red seed cases late in the autumn.

May-June • 38" (90cm)
£10.00 for 3



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)
£10.00 for 3



X HYBRIDUM 42-04

An easy companion plant in many gardens as it is pretty much bomb proof, growing in sun or shade and hardy everywhere. A multi purpose garden stalwart the stems can be harvested for use in the house for green and white floral displays, or as a floral filler when the flowers have disappeared for much of the summer. Best (and more luxuriantly impressive) in some shade and in moisture retentive soils.

May/June • 24-36" (60-90cm)
£10.00 for 3



X HYBRIDUM GRACE BARKER 42-07

The variegated leaf form, shorter and more compact plant with 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. Disturbance sometimes affects the degree of variegation.

May/June • 18-24" (45-60cm)
£10.00 for 3

Insect friendly Plants

We believe the plants where we have highlighted the name in yellow to be particularly beneficial to pollinating insects such as bees, butterflies, moths and hover flies.





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)
£ 10.00 for 3

PRIMULA

Easy drumstick Primulas which originate from the Himalayas where they grow in light woodland. In Britain they would prefer 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 priced at £3.50 each



DENTICULATA RED 91-02

Mar-Apr • 8-10" (20-24cm)



MOOREANA 91-04

Also from the Himalayas through to SW China these have more flattened flower discs peppered with deep purple flowers, the emerging buds and foliage looks as if dusted in white meal. They flower all summer, quite amazing.

Summer • 8-10" (20-24cm)

PULSATILLA

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 of Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire as well as being the provincial flower of Manitoba and the state flower of Dakota? Mounds of silk soft hairy foliage produce these much loved flowers in March and April, followed by fluffy seed heads on their lengthening stems. Supplied in 7 cm pots, allow a planting interval of about 9" (20cm)

All priced at £3.50 each



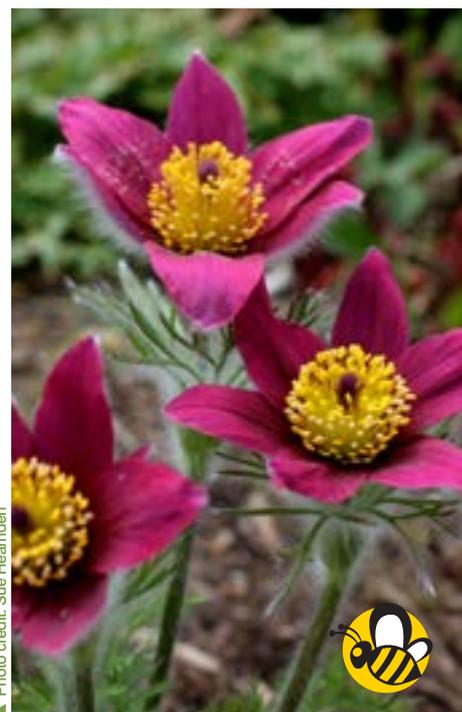
DENTICULATA LILAC 91-01

Mar-Apr • 8-10" (20-24cm)



VULGARIS 98-01

Mar-Apr • 6-8" (15-20cm)



VULGARIS RUBRA 98-02

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, pot the bulbs into 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 – what we send you will still all flower. Unselected for colour, these come in shades of pink, white and red. Pot them into an all purpose compost (they do not want too much lime) 7 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)
£4.20 for 7 or £8.00 for 15



AURICULATA FLORIADE 40-12

A selected form of *R. auriculata* dating back to 1988 when it won an award In Holland. Larger in flower and foliage and less variable than the species might be.

Late summer • 18" (45cm)
£5.00 for 3

ROSCOEÆ

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 either will do, as long as it is not too dry, useful in providing interesting summer colour.



AURICULATA 🏆

40-08

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

Late summer • 15" (40cm)
£4.50 for 5 or £8.00 for 10



CAUTLEYOIDES 40-06

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

Early summer • 15" (40cm)
£5.00 for 3



CAUTLEYOIDES
KEW BEAUTY 40-13
 Comment worthy. Especially so in a small garden but both are vigorous and increasing and there is nothing 'wrong' with the species plant above!
Early summer • 15" (40cm)
£8.00 for 3



PURPUREA
BROWN PEACOCK 40-11
 Darker leaved and with red or purple tinged 'stems' (pseudostems to be correct), the flowers are mauve and lilac, blooming later in the year. Grown for the stockier habit and the much more highly coloured stems.

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). These are never as tall as Gloriosa or such good climbers, only being equipped with small tendrils on the ends of the terminal leaves on which to hook themselves up. 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



PURPUREA 40-10
 Strong stemmed, with thickening at the nodes at each leaf axil, somewhat like a bamboo, with successions of mauve-purple flowers providing interest and colour over several weeks.

Late summer • 24" (60cm)
£6.00 for 3



SAXIFRAGE



SOUTHSIDE SEEDLING 16-01

An excellent plant for a rock garden, this mat-forming saxifrage forms large rosettes of pale green leaves speckled with silvery deposits. When the rosettes are large enough, they will produce arching plumes of tiny white flowers, heavily spotted with red which last for several weeks. Prefers a limey soil and good drainage, sun or partial shade. From 7 cm pots.

Late spring • 10" (30cm)
£3.50

TRICYRTIS

The 'Toad Lily'. Wonderful autumn-flowering herbaceous plants. With soft corrugated leaves along wiry multi branched stems, the ends of all of which sport 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

Bearing what, on first sight, look like orchid-like flowers. The white background nearly covered with rosy-purple freckling. Very upright and wiry stemmed, the first flowers are replaced by sequences of further flushes of flowers on the lower branches. Easy, persistent and a useful cut flower with its wiry stem.

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 they can grow 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 emerging 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 under that family heading. 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)
£4.50 for 3



TROPAEOLUM



TUBEROSUM 47-07

Some tubers trained over some pea sticks flower for months in the autumn and a few bulbs trained up some netting have camouflaged an oil tank for the summer. Pretty, knobby 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. I am uncertain whether this is the form 'Ken Aslet' or not, that one is meant to flower earlier. 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 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 flashed 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 1 litre pots, there may be several plants in each, priced per pot, and a bargain.

Summer • 5" (12cm)
£5.00



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 being hardy so protection is probably a wise precaution unless they are grown in dry sheltered gardens. Finer and more petite than T. violacea with narrow lilac - mauve flowers which, with the foliage, is all quite strongly onion scented when crushed. A exceptionally good patio plant.

Summer • 14" (35cm)
£4.00



VIOLACEA 🏆 130-17

These plants flower profusely and continuously from June to October. Probably the hardiest member of the family, we do grow them outside here, but one could get away with growing these outside in colder areas, especially if it is drier in winter. Glowingly violet - purple flowers with hundreds of stems on established plants providing colour for about 5 months.

All summer • 18" (45cm)
£10.00 for 3



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, possibly a mulch in winter and a sunny site.

Summer • 18" (45cm)
£7.00 for 3



VIOLACEA SILVER LACE 🏆 130-08

Strongly silver-variegated form of T. violacea; Mauve 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. Very drought resistant so maybe a candidate for a sunny corner where it seems never to get very wet.

Summer • 14" (35cm)
£7.00 for 3



Gift vouchers

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 £5.00 each (sent on their own please add £3.00 postage).

669 - 01	Maxiflex gloves (Medium)	£5.00
669 - 02	Maxiflex gloves (Small)	£5.00



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.

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).

However, 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: 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

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.



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: 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: 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: 10

Lunaria 'Corfu Blue'

Hardy biennial, flowering in the spring often earlier than other Lunaria, with purple-blue flowers on purple flushed stems, growing to 3' (90cm) tall and a spread of up to 30" (75cm). The seed cases are distinctive as papery silvered seed heads. Sow two 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 may hybridise with other Lunaria close by. The leaves are browsed by rabbits.



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) the flowering is much earlier and more profuse the second year.



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.

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

Mail Order for Spring 2019

Plants and bulbs to flower in the summer

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 _____

Forename or Initials: _____ Surname: _____

House: _____

Name/No: _____

Street: _____

Town: _____

County: _____

Postcode: _____ Country: _____

Contact Number:

Tel: _____ Mob: _____

Email address: _____ @ _____

Your details are only used by us and our carriers and not passed on to anyone else.

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.

Payment: Orders are not accepted without payment except by prior agreement.

Please include payment or please charge my Visa / 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 _____



Please fold this sheet into a smaller envelope to avoid postal surcharges

Avon Bulbs - how it all works

Generally: This catalogue is **valid** through the spring of 2019 and expires in May. The **prices** are for single bulbs unless it says otherwise, and can be found under each description. **VAT** is included in our prices at the prevailing rate. 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 online 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. Snowdrop orders will be dealt with first, starting in February. 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.

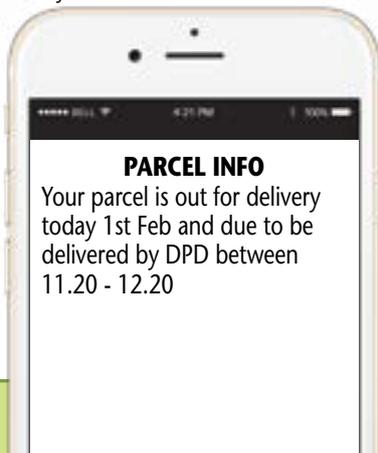
In detail: Parcels under 2 Kg are sent by the Royal Mail, Snowdrop orders usually by First Class post, other bulbs by Second Class post. Parcels heavier than 2 Kg will be sent to mainland UK addresses with our carriers, DPD, on a next working day service (no deliveries on a Saturday). Providing us with 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 DPD) a further advisory message to allow you to track the delivery. From DPD 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 currently 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. The situation after the end of March 2019 is unclear!

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 DPD 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!





Sales and Events in the Spring of 2019 that we shall be attending.

- Altamont Gardens (Co. Carlow, Ireland)** **Sat 2nd Feb**
Lectures from Ian Christie and Ian Young at Ballykealey Manor with a garden tour and plant sales at Altamont a short drive away afterwards. A typically Irish welcome awaits.
Contact: hesterforde@gmail.com
10% off snowdrops pre-ordered from Avon Bulbs taken to this event for participants.
- The Garden House, Buckland Monachorum PL20 7LQ** **Sat 2nd Feb**
Snowdrop sale in the gardens from 11.00
- RHS Rosemoor, Devon** **Sun 3rd Feb**
Snowdrop event (please see the Rosemoor website for details)
- Shaftesbury Snowdrop Study Day SP7 8JQ** **Sat 9th Feb**
Talks by Jane Kilpatrick & Jennifer Harmer, Tom Mitchell and Andy McIndoe. Snowdrop sales with several nurseries attending. Contact: info@shaftesburysnowdrops.org
- HPS Snowdrop Group Study Day, Langport, Somerset** **Sun 10th Feb**
at Huish Episcopi Academy, with talks by Alan Street and Michael Dreisvoigt followed by visits to East Lambrook Manor and Avon Bulbs.
- Cottage Garden Society Snowdrop Group Study Day** **Sat 16th Feb**
At Hatherleigh, Devon with talks by Paul Smyth and Jim Almond, visiting Higher Cherubee.
- Shepton Mallet Snowdrop Festival** **Sat 16th Feb**
- Kloster Knechtsteden (NE of Cologne in Germany) *** **Sat 16th & Sun 17th Feb**
A new location for the event previously held at Orlich. Now indoors (!) in the fantastic surroundings of a 12 Century Monastery. Contact: www.schneegloeckchentage-knechtsteden.de
- Mannheim Spring Flower Show (south of Frankfurt, Germany) *** **Sat 23rd & Sun 24th Feb**
Held in the grounds of the impressive Luisenpark with plenty of other nurseries and talks.
Entry to the park 6.00 Euro. Contact: schneegloeckchentage@gmail.com
- Gartneriet Spiren (Skaelskor 4230 Denmark) *** **Sat 23rd & Sun 24th Feb**
On the plant nursery of Danish friends who mostly concentrate on hellebores
- Forde Abbey Plant Sale** **Sun 3rd March**
- Sidmouth Daffodil Festival** **Sat 16th March**
- East Lambrook Manor, Somerset HPS Early Plant Fair** **Sat 23rd March**
- Great Dixter Spring Plant Fair, East Sussex TN31 6PH** **Sat 6th & Sun 7th April**
- Toby's Garden Festival at Powderham Castle, Devon** **Fri 3rd & Sat 4th May**
- Malvern Spring Flower Show** **Thurs 9th – Sun 12th May**
- Open Days (and Sale) at Avon Bulbs planned for 26 and 27 April – details in Newsletters closer to the time

* We will be charging €5 per order brought to these shows on account of distance travelled, the orders take up space in the van for the plants that we are also taking to sell!

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



We can bring your pre-booked potted snowdrop orders only to events that we attend in February 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.