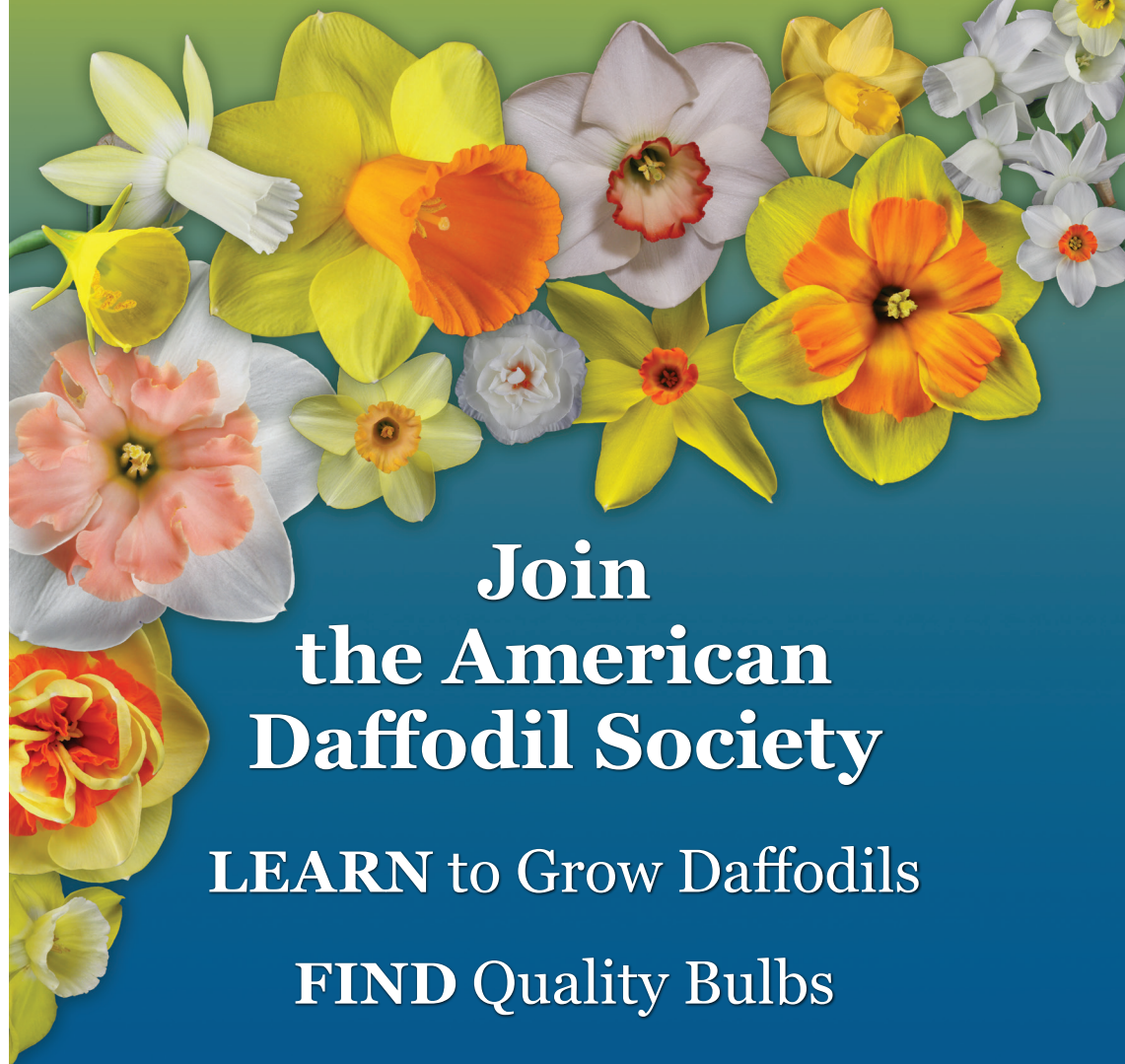


The American Daffodil Society

DaffodilUSA.org

Discover daffodils!



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How do daffodils grow?

Our daffodil story begins and ends with a flower. Discover the steps needed to produce a new flower—from pollination to flowering bulb.

POLLINATION STARTS THE PROCESS

Be like a bee

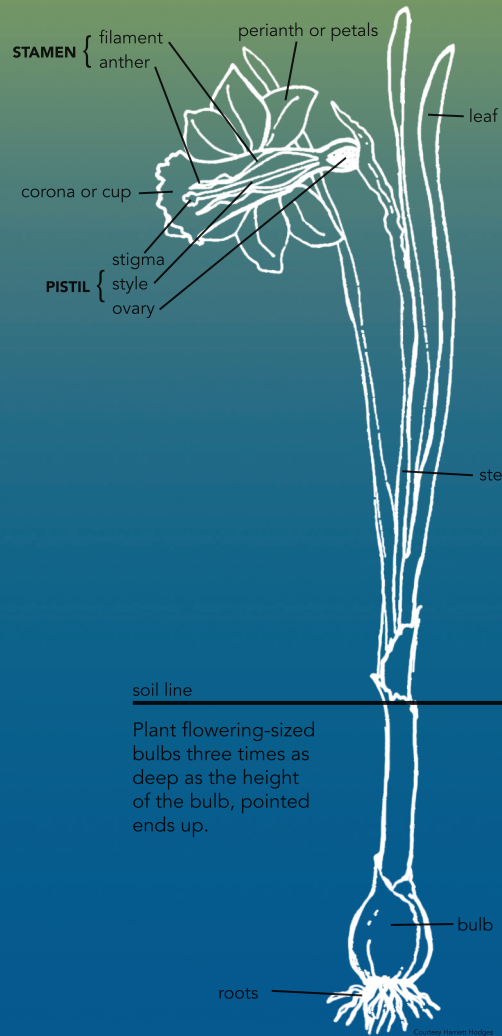
Pollinate a blossom using tweezers or a paintbrush. Take tiny pollen grains from the anther of one daffodil and transfer them to the stigma of another growing daffodil flower.



Look for the six anthers covered with pollen. They surround the stigma.



Notice that the entire stamen is being used to dab the pollen.



WITHIN HOURS OF POLLINATION

Wait for fertilization

Each pollen grain grows from the stigma down the style to fertilize one immature egg cell in the ovary and may result in one daffodil seed.



Locate the stigma, style, and ovary in this cutaway daffodil.



Can you find the immature egg cells in this close-up of a cutaway ovary?

ABOUT 2 MONTHS LATER

Harvest and plant ripe seeds

When you shake the dried seed pod or ovary and can hear the mature seeds rattle around inside, it's time to pluck the seed pod. Plant seeds in a light soil mix one-half inch deep.



Look for small, black daffodil seeds like these inside the seed pods.



Notice the small seeds dropped into slight depressions in the soil. The soil should be kept slightly moist until the seeds sprout.

1 YEAR

Nurture young seedlings

Be sure your plants receive at least half a day of full sun. Check with your local growers about water requirements.



Young daffodil seedlings look like small, wild onion sprouts. Their little bulbets must grow several years before they flower.

2 YEARS

Grow bulbs over time

Dig and replant young bulbs as needed to give them room to grow.



Like an onion, daffodil bulbs grow in layers and increase in size. These tiny bulbets are still 2 to 5 years from mature bloom-size bulbs.

3 TO 7 YEARS

Plant mature bulbs

It takes from 3 to 5 years for a miniature or 5 to 7 years for a standard daffodil to bloom from seed.



Daffodil bulbs multiply and divide over time, providing more bulbs to plant or to share with a friend!

What is a daffodil?

Daffodil or Narcissus?

They're the same thing! Narcissus is Latin, and daffodil is English for the same thing.

Daffodil or Jonquil?

They're not the same thing! Jonquils are only one division of daffodils (Division 7). So all jonquils are daffodils, but not all daffodils are jonquils.

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Trace the Path to Pink

Search the family history of a modern pink-cupped daffodil back to some of its wild ancestors.

A flower has many ancestors, just like you.

People make daffodil history

For generations, daffodil lovers from around the world have artfully paired daffodils in pursuit of prized offspring—new hybrids. Hybridizers select daffodil parents for their color, shape, form or for other characteristics, such as how well they grow.



'Assertion' 2 W-P, 1997
BRIAN S. DUNCAN, NORTHERN IRELAND

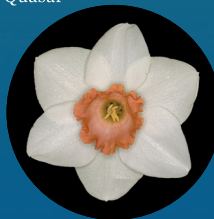
'Assertion' is a Division 2 large-cupped daffodil with white petals and a pink cup. It was registered in 1997 and hybridized by Brian S. Duncan of Northern Ireland in 1986.

They mate—or cross—two flowers by transferring pollen from one flower (the pollen parent) to the stigma of the other flower (the seed parent). The cross is recorded as seed parent x pollen parent or, for example, 'Dailmanach' x 'Quasar'—the match that produced 'Assertion'.

PARENTS OF 'ASSERTION'

'Dailmanach' x 'Quasar'

'Dailmanach' 2 W-P, 1972
J.S.B. LEA, ENGLAND



'Quasar' 2 W-PPR, 1977
MURRAY W. EVANS, UNITED STATES

TWO GRANDPARENTS OF 'ASSERTION'

'Cordial' 2 W-P, 1970
MURRAY W. EVANS, UNITED STATES

The parents of 'Quasar' are 'Cordial' and 'Precedent'. That makes 'Cordial' one of the four grandparents of 'Assertion'.



'Inverpolly' 2 W-W, 1980
J.S.B. LEA, ENGLAND

'Inverpolly' is a parent of 'Dailmanach' and, therefore, another grandparent of 'Assertion'. Though the eventual goal may have been a pink flower, this hybridizer chose a white parent flower, perhaps for its smooth petals, large cup, or other desirable features.

RECURRING RELATIVES OF 'ASSERTION'



'Green Island' 2 W-GWY, pre1938
J. LIONEL RICHARDSON, IRELAND

'Green Island' appears twice in the ancestry of 'Assertion', once as a great-grandparent and once two generations earlier. Registered before 1940, 'Green Island' is an historic daffodil.



'Bernardino' 2 W-YYO, pre1907
PHILIP JOHN WORSLEY, ENGLAND

'Bernardino' is also twice an ancestor of 'Assertion'—six and again eight generations back.



'Will Scarlet' 2 W-O, pre1898
REV. G.H. ENGLEHEART, ENGLAND

'Will Scarlet' shows up three times as an ancestor of 'Assertion', in generations six, seven and eight. Hybridized from two species daffodils, *N. abscissus* x *N. radiflorus* *poetarum*, 'Will Scarlet' was considered so ungainly by some breeders that they refused to grow it, fearing an accidental cross pollination.



'Madame de Graaff' 1 W-W, pre1887
DE GRAAFF BROTHERS, HOLLAND

'Madame de Graaff' appears in several early generations of 'Assertion'. Compare early and modern hybrids and note the differences in shape or form. Modern daffodils tend to be more symmetrical than earlier daffodils, with smoother, thicker petals that overlap each other.

EARLIEST ANCESTORS OF 'ASSERTION'

Species start it all

N. abscissus is one of several species found in the 8th generation back. The wild daffodils are called species. Most daffodil species are found in Portugal, Spain, France, and Austria, with a few discovered in northern Africa and other countries. Crosses between species produced the first hybrid daffodils. Hybridizers often cross modern daffodils with species to see what results.



Poets produce more than poetry

N. poeticus
Following the path to pink in 'Assertion', we find *N. poeticus* in its ancestry six, seven and eight generations back. Daffodil colors other than yellow or white come from the species, *N. poeticus*. The red in the rim of its cup provides pink, orange, and red colors in all modern daffodils.

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Daffodils... so many choices!

Daffodils are separated into thirteen divisions. Shape or form defines Divisions 1 through 12. Division 13 daffodils are the wild species. In every division you can find daffodils of different sizes and colors!

Miscellaneous Daffodils
This category holds unique daffodils that don't fit in the first 11 divisions.



DIVISION 12

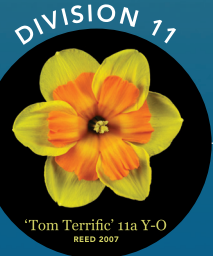


DIVISION 2

Species Daffodils
Species daffodils, including wild hybrids and variants, are located in this division.

Trumpet Daffodils
The cup length measures as long or longer than the petals. Each stem carries one flower.

Large-Cupped Daffodils
The cup length measures more than one-third of, but less than equal to, the length of the petals. Each stem carries one flower.



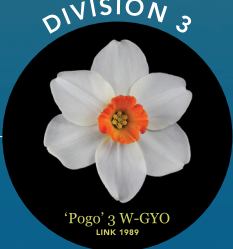
DIVISION 11

Split-Cupped Daffodils
The cups are split at least one-half of their length and usually lie flat against the petals. There's most often one flower per stem.

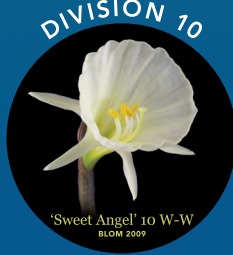


DIVISION 1

Small-Cupped Daffodils
The cup length measures not more than one-third of the length of the petals. Each stem carries one flower.



DIVISION 3



DIVISION 10

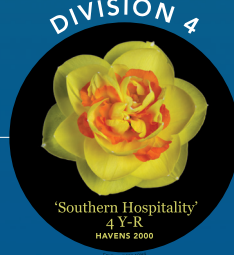
Bulbocodium Daffodils
Daffodils in the "hoop petticoat" form display large cups and tiny petals. Each stem usually carries one flower.

UNRAVEL THE CODE

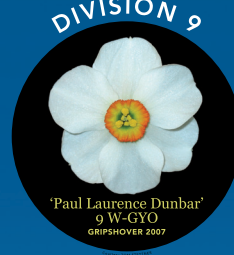
1 = Division 1
YYW = perianth or petal colors from the outside in
WWY = cup or corona colors from the inside out

In the code following each flower's name, the number refers to the flower's division and the letters refer to the flower's color code.

Double Daffodils
The cup and/or petals are clustered with multiple layers of petals. Each stem carries one or more flowers.



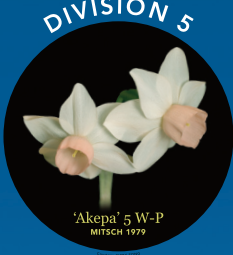
DIVISION 4



DIVISION 9

Poeticus Daffodils
Extremely white petals surround the cup—a small, crinkled disc, not more than one-fifth the length of the perianth segments, commonly with a green and/or yellow center and red rim, but sometimes wholly or partly of other colors; anthers usually set at two distinct levels; flowers fragrant.

Colors are represented by:
W = White
Y = Yellow
P = Pink
R = Red
O = Orange
G = Green



DIVISION 5

Triandrus Daffodils
The blooms hang down like bells. Each stem carries one or more flowers.



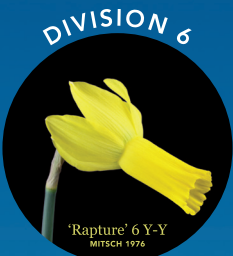
DIVISION 8

Tazetta Daffodils
Three or more fragrant flowers bloom on each stem. The foliage and stem are very broad.



DIVISION 7

Jonquilla Daffodils
The foliage is narrow and reed-like. Each stem carries one or more fragrant flowers.



DIVISION 6

Cyclamineus Daffodils
The petals appear wind-swept. Each stem carries one flower.

*I wander'd lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.*

*Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretch'd in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.*

*For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.*

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