Daffodil
2013 - 2014
Final Trials Report

Trials Office
The Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey, GU23 6QB
RHS Trial of Daffodils 2013 - 2014

Objectives
- To assess, compare and demonstrate a range of cultivars submitted by nurserymen and individuals in the UK and the Netherlands.
- To judge which of these cultivars should be recommended for the Royal Horticultural Society’s Award of Garden Merit (AGM).

Judging
The entries were judged by the Daffodil Trial Assessment Forum in 2013 and 2014 for the Award of Garden Merit (AGM), using a scoring system out of 50 points based on the following criteria:

- Maximum of 30 points for Impact, Grace and Charm, i.e. colour, style and proportion, carriage and pose, bloom density

  **Impact/Grace and Charm**  
  Colours 10  
  Style and Proportion 10  
  Carriage and Pose 5  
  Bloom Density 5  
  Total 30

- Maximum of 10 points for Durability, i.e. weather resistance, flower life

  **Durability**  
  Weather resistance 5  
  Flower life 5  
  Total 10

- Maximum of 10 points for Constitution, i.e. plant health and vigour, plant habit

  **Constitution**  
  Plant health & vigour 5  
  Plant habit 5  
  Total 10

Maximum Score  50

After considering the cumulative scores on 27 May 2014, the Daffodil Trial Assessment Forum recommended the Award of Garden Merit (AGM) to eight entries and reconfirmed the AGM to one entry.

The members of the forum were: Mike Bird, Chris Blom, Malcolm Bradbury, Janine Doulton, Reg Nicholl (Chairman), Len Olive, Jan Pennings. Geoff Ridley, Dave Vivash, Peter Wilkins.
Entries
There were 35 entries in the trial, submitted by nurserymen and individuals from the United Kingdom and The Netherlands.

Cultivation
Initially the plot was rotavated with a tractor-mounted rotavator and subsequently was cultivated by hand before planting. Bulbs were planted on 12 August 2012 at a depth of 3 times the height of the bulb (approx 15cm / 6in), spaced 15cm apart each way in blocks of 25. Entries were examined for virus and other diseases each spring and affected bulbs were removed. The trial was covered with Enviromesh (a fine crop protection netting) on 24 May 2013 to protect the trial from Narcissus bulb fly, the female flies generally lay eggs between late May and mid-July. The Enviromesh was removed at the end of July.

Possible Pests and Diseases
Virus – the most common is Narcissus yellow stripe virus, which causes yellow streaks down the foliage
Daffodil basal rot (Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. narcissi)
Large Narcissus bulb fly (Merodon equestris)
Small Narcissus flies (Eumerus strigatus and E. funeralis)

Meteorological Report and Findings
Although the bulbs were planted in a very dry month with less than a quarter of the average rainfall for August, the cumulative rainfall total for 2012 was slightly higher than the long-term average. The first few months of 2013 were colder but drier than the long-term average and this continued into April, the last snow shower occurring in the first week. The second half of the April was much warmer, bringing the monthly mean temperature up to the seasonal norm. Above average temperatures in July and August made 2013 the warmest summer since 2006 and the weather continued mild into the autumn, culminating in storm-force winds and heavy rain towards the end of December. Both January and February 2014 achieved monthly rainfall records and had mean daily temperatures above the long-term averages. The Met Office officially declared the winter as the wettest since 1766 in Southern England. As the ground was so wet, water was tending to flow down the field across the surface, causing some disturbance to the soil in the trial. March 2014 was generally mild and dry with hours of sunshine above average, the warm and early spring producing flowers approximately three weeks earlier in 2014 than in 2013. A general comment was made by the forum about flower size being larger than normal in 2014, due to all the rain over the winter.

Records
A record was made of the date of start and finish of flowering, the number of flowering stems per bulb and the number of blind bulbs in each entry. Although the use of Enviromesh was effective in protecting the trial from attack by Narcissus bulb fly, four of the later flowering cultivars are missing dates for the finish of flowering in 2013. Two bulbs of entry number 18 ‘The Foxtrott’ were sent to Pathology in February 2014: no fungal pathogen was found within the bulb and it was likely to be a bacterial infection following either wounding or stressing, possibly due to the wet conditions. The remaining four bulbs were removed as being an insufficient number to be assessed. Other problems included a few bulbs with Narcissus yellow stripe virus, a few with colour break virus and some with leaf scorch, caused by the fungus Stagonospora curtisii. Despite these problems, a good display of flowers was seen in 2014 and a number of AGM recommendations were made.
Recommendation for the Award of Garden Merit (AGM)

The following are the plants thought to fulfil the Award of Garden Merit criteria during the trial and to be worthy of receiving the award. The criteria which a plant needs to fulfil in order to receive the award are:

- excellent for ordinary use in appropriate conditions
- available
- of good constitution
- essentially stable in form and colour
- reasonably resistant to pests and diseases

All plants receiving the award were categorised as Hardiness rating H6 – Hardy across the UK and northern Europe.

Abbreviated comments from members of the Daffodil Trial Assessment Forum are shown in italics and the number of flowering stems per ten bulbs relates to 2014, the second year of the trial. Plants produced one flower per stem unless otherwise stated.
The Daffodil Trial Assessment Forum recommended the Society's Award of Garden Merit to the following entries:

**Narcissus ‘Pistachio’ AGM (H6) 2014, Classification 1 Y-Y (Trial Entry 2)**
Raised by W F Leenen, sent by New Generation Daffodils.
Available from Walkers Bulbs, Kevock Garden Plants, R V Roger Ltd.
Forum Comments: “Elegant flower held above the foliage. Early flowering.”
Flowered for 26 days in 2014 (from 15 March), with 24 flowering stems per 10 bulbs.
Description to be completed in due course.

**Narcissus ‘Wheatear’ AGM (H6) 2014, Classification 6 Y-WWy (Trial Entry 17)**
Raised by G E Mitsch, sent by Ringhaddy Daffodils.
Available from Quality Daffodils, Ringhaddy Daffodils.
Forum Comments: “Super flower. Consistent. Takes a while to change but good clean flower.”
Flowered for 35 days in 2014 (from 13 March), with 32 flowering stems per 10 bulbs.
Description to be completed in due course.

**Narcissus ‘Skater’s Waltz’ AGM (H6) 2014, Classification 6 Y-Y (Trial Entry 21)**
Raised by G E Mitsch and R & E Havens, sent by J S Pennings.
Available from H W Hyde & Sons
Forum Comments: “Lots of flower. Good weather resistance.”
Flowered for 33 days in 2014 (from 7 March), with 55 flowering stems per 10 bulbs.
Description to be completed in due course.
Narcissus ‘Prom Dance’ AGM (H6) 2014, Classification 11a W-Y (Trial Entry 26)
Raised by Unknown, sent by J S Pennings.
Available from Walkers Bulbs, Kevock Garden Plants, Kelways, Jacques Amand, H W Hyde & Son
Forum Comments: “In a sheltered spot, would be tremendous. Slender foliage which does not hide flowers.”
Flowered for 36 days in 2014 (from 18 March), with 98 flowering stems per 10 bulbs.
Produced 2-3 flowers per stem.
Description to be completed in due course.

Narcissus ‘Katherine Jenkins’ AGM (H6) 2014, Classification 7 Y-R (Trial Entry 30)
Raised and sent by R A Scamp.
Available from Quality Daffodils.
Flowered for 45 days in 2014 (from 10 March), with 88 flowering stems per 10 bulbs.
Description to be completed in due course.

Narcissus ‘Hungarian Rhapsody’ AGM (H6) 2014, Classification 11a W-P (Trial Entry 32)
Raised by G E Mitsch, sent by New Generation Daffodils.
Available from Thompson & Morgan.
Forum Comments: “Good flower and foliage. Clean and bright.”
Flowered for 26 days in 2014 (from 26 March), with 25 flowering stems per 10 bulbs.
Description to be completed in due course.

Narcissus ‘Breezand Tristar’ AGM (H6) 2014, Classification 11a W-Y (Trial Entry 33)
Raised by J Ruksans, sent by J S Pennings.
Available from Broadleigh Bulbs.
Forum Comments: “Wonderful flower. Lost a little bit of colour.”
Flowered for 26 days in 2014 (from 3 April), with 124 flowering stems per 10 bulbs.
Produced up to 5 flowers on one stem.
Description to be completed in due course.
The Daffodil Trial Assessment Forum re-confirmed the Society’s Award of Garden Merit to:

**Narcissus ‘Queen Beatrix’ AGM (H6) 2009, Classification 1 Y-Y (Trial Entry 1)**
Raised by K. van der Veek, sent by Fluwel.
Available from Miniature & Choice Bulbs.
Forum Comments: “Performed brilliantly. On a corner but didn’t suffer wind or weather damage. Big, bold, bright quality flowers held just above the foliage.”
Flowered for 28 days in 2014 (from 21 March), with 30 flowering stems per 10 bulbs.
Description to be completed in due course.

The Daffodil Trial Assessment Forum recommended the Society’s Award of Garden Merit, subject to AVAILABILITY, to:

**Narcissus ‘Classic Garden’ AGM (H6) 2014, Classification 1 Y-O (Trial Entry 5)**
Raised by W J M Blom, sent by J S Pennings.
Not currently available.
Forum Comments: “Early variety which did not fade. Very impressive display.”
Flowered for 34 days in 2014 (from 28 February), with 29 flowering stems per 10 bulbs.
Description to be completed in due course.

It is the sender’s responsibility to notify the Trials Office that bulbs have become available for home gardeners to buy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name &amp; Sender</th>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Flowering start/end = total days flowering</th>
<th>Flower stems per 10 bulbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'Queen Beatrix' AGM (H6) 2009 Fluwel</td>
<td>1 Y-Y</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 21 May =31 days</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Pistachio' New Generation Daffodils</td>
<td>1 Y-Y dwarf</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 7 May =17 days</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Gentle Giant ' New Generation Daffodils</td>
<td>2 W-O</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 7 May =17 days</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Rogue' Broadleigh Gardens</td>
<td>2 W-Y</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 7 May =17 days</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Classic Garden' J S Pennings</td>
<td>1 Y-O</td>
<td>27 Mar/ 26 Apr =31 days</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Cloud Nine' Broadleigh Gardens</td>
<td>2 YYW-W</td>
<td>24 Apr/ 21 May =28 days</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Gellymill' R A Scamp</td>
<td>2 YYW-WYY</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 21 May =31 days</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Taurus' New Generation Daffodils</td>
<td>2 W-W</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 21 May =31 days</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Jersey Lace' New Generation Daffodils</td>
<td>2 W-YOY</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 7 May =17 days</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Green Pearl' Miniature Bulbs</td>
<td>3 W-GWW</td>
<td>7 May</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Killearnan' Fluwel</td>
<td>3 W-GYR</td>
<td>24 Apr/ 14 May =21 days</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Glasney' R A Scamp</td>
<td>3 W-Y</td>
<td>1 May/ 21 May =21 days</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Viktoria von dem Bussche' Fluwel</td>
<td>4 W-YOO</td>
<td>4 Apr/ 14 May =11 days</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Borderlight' W F Leenan</td>
<td>4 W-YYO</td>
<td>24 Apr/ 14 May =21 days</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Jersey Star' New Generation Daffodils</td>
<td>4 Y-R</td>
<td>11 Apr/ 7 May =27 days</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Horn of Plenty' Fluwel</td>
<td>5 W-W</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 21 May =31 days</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Wheatear' Ringhaddy Daffodils</td>
<td>6 Y-WWY</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 21 May =31 days</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name &amp; Sender</td>
<td>Classification</td>
<td>Flowering start/end = total days flowering</td>
<td>Flower stems per 10 bulbs</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>18 'The Foxtrott' Miniature Bulbs</td>
<td>6 W-P</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 21 May =31 days Removed</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 'Snipe' Fluwel</td>
<td>6 W-W</td>
<td>19 Mar/ 7 May =50 days 22 Feb/ 06 Apr =13 days</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 'Velocity' J S Pennings</td>
<td>6 Y-R</td>
<td>8 Apr/ 1 May =24 days 08 Mar/ 10 Apr =34 days</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 'Skater's Waltz' J S Pennings</td>
<td>6 Y-Y</td>
<td>11 Apr/ 7 May =27 days 07 Mar/ 08 Apr =33 days</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 'Lemon Silk' Broadleigh Gardens</td>
<td>6 YYW-W</td>
<td>13 Mar/ 1 May =49 days 25 Feb/ 06 Apr =40 days</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 'Lemon Silk' Miniature Bulbs</td>
<td>6 YYW-W</td>
<td>2 Apr/ 1 May =27 days 06 Mar/ 08 Apr =34 days</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 'Inca' Miniature Bulbs</td>
<td>6 YYW-WWY</td>
<td>27 Mar/ 24 Apr =29 days 28 Feb/ 08 Apr =39 days</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 'Winter Waltz' J S Pennings</td>
<td>6 W-P</td>
<td>19 Mar/ 1 May =43 days 25 Feb/ 06 Apr =40 days</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 'Prom Dance' J S Pennings</td>
<td>11a W-Y</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 21 May =31 days 18 Mar/ 22 Apr =36 days</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 'Little Meg' R A Scamp</td>
<td>7 Y-GYO</td>
<td>1 May 03 Apr/ 02 May =31 days</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 'Trelissick' R A Scamp</td>
<td>7 Y-GYY</td>
<td>1 May 04 Apr/ 06 May =28 days</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 'Golden Twins' R A Scamp</td>
<td>7 Y-GYY</td>
<td>7 May 14 Apr/ 17 May =35 days</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 'Katherine Jenkins' R A Scamp</td>
<td>7 Y-R</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 21 May =31 days 10 Mar/ 23 Apr =45 days</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 'Sweet Surprise' W F Leenan</td>
<td>9 W-GYO</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 1 May =11 days 06 Mar/ 09 Apr =35 days</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32 'Hungarian Rhapsody' New Generation Daffodils</td>
<td>11a W-P</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 14 May =24 days 26 Mar/ 20 Apr =26 days</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 'Breezand Tristar' J S Pennings</td>
<td>11a W-Y</td>
<td>1 May/ 21 May =21 days 03 Apr/ 28 Apr =20 days</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>34 'Congress' New Generation Daffodils</td>
<td>11a Y-O</td>
<td>21 Apr/ 7 May =11 days 19 Mar/ 16 Apr =29 days</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 'Yazz' J S Pennings</td>
<td>7 W-P</td>
<td>24 Apr/ 21 May =27 days 31 Mar/ 25 Apr =25 days</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Names and Addresses of Senders to the Trial:

Broadleigh Gardens, Barr House, Bishops Hull, Taunton, Somerset TA4 1AE
Fluwel, Belkmerweg 20A, 1754 GB Burgerbrug, The Netherlands
J S Pennings de Bilt, Schorweg 14, 1764 MC Breezand, The Netherlands
Miniature Bulbs, The Warren Estate, 9 Greengate Drive, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 9EN
New Generation Daffodils, Dixcarte, Crowan, Camborne, Cornwall TR14 9NB
R A Scamp, Quality Daffodils, 14 Roscarrack Close, Falmouth, Cornwall TR11 4PJ
Ringhaddy Daffodils, 60 Ringhaddy Road, Killinchy, Newtownards, Co. Down BT23 6TU
W F Leenen, Loosterweg 51F, 2215 TM Voorhout, The Netherlands

Source: Horticultural Trials and Relations,
RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB
Tel: 01483 224234 & Email: trials@rhs.org.uk

More information about RHS Trials and other Trials reports can be found on the RHS Website at www.rhs.org.uk/trials
Key to classification from the International Daffodil Register 1998 / RHS

For garden purposes daffodils are classified in thirteen divisions. Whether of wild or cultivated origin, once a selection has been made distinguished by a cultivar name it should be assigned to Divisions 1-12. Daffodils distinguished solely by botanical name should be assigned to Division 13.

**Division 1** - Trumpet Daffodil Cultivars
One flower to a stem; corona as long as, or longer than the perianth segments.

**Division 2** - Large - Cupped Daffodil Cultivars
One flower to a stem; corona more than 1/3, but less than equal to the length of the perianth segments.

**Division 3** - Small - Cupped Daffodil Cultivars
One flower to stem; corona not more than 1/3 the length of the perianth segments.

**Division 4** - Double Daffodil Cultivars
One or more flowers to a stem, with doubling of the perianth segments or the corona or both.

**Division 5** – Triandrus Daffodil Cultivars
Characteristics of *N. triandrus* clearly evident: usually two or more pendent flowers to a stem; perianth segments reflexed.

**Division 6** - Cyclamineus Daffodil Cultivars
Characteristics of *N. cyclamineus* clearly evident: one flower to a stem; perianth segments clearly reflexed; flower at an acute angle to the stem, with a very short pedicel ('neck').

**Division 7** – Jonquilla and Apodanthus Daffodil Cultivars
Characteristics of Sections Jonquilla or Apodanthi clearly evident: one to five (rarely eight) flowers to a stem; perianth segments spreading or reflexed; corona cup-shaped, funnel-shaped or flared, usually wider than long; flowers usually fragrant.

**Division 8** - Tazetta Daffodil Cultivars
Characteristics of Section Tazettae clearly evident: usually three to twenty flowers to a stout stem; perianth segments spreading not reflexed; flowers usually fragrant.

**Division 9** – Poeticus Daffodil Cultivars
Characteristics of the *N. poeticus* group: usually one flower to a stem; perianth segments pure white; corona very short or disc-shaped, usually with a green and/or yellow centre and red rim, but sometimes of a single colour; flowers usually fragrant.

**Division 10** - Bulbocodium Daffodil Cultivars
Characteristics of Section Bulbocodium clearly evident: usually one flower to a stem; perianth segments insignificant compared with the dominant corona; anthers dorsifixed (i.e. attached more or less centrally to the filament); filament and style usually curved.
**Division 11 - Split Corona Daffodil Cultivars**
Corona split, usually for more than half its length.

a) Collar Daffodils
Split-corona daffodils with the corona segments opposite the perianth segments; the corona segments usually in two whorls of three.

b) Papillon Daffodils
Split-corona daffodils with the corona segments alternate to the perianth segments; the corona segments usually in a single whorl of six.

**Division 12 – Other Daffodil Cultivars**
Daffodils not falling into any of the previous categories

**Division 13 – Daffodils distinguished solely by botanical name**

Perianth segments = petals  
Corona = cup/trumpet

The colour code consists of two letters or two groups of letters, separated by a hyphen: the letter(s) before the hyphen describe the perianth segments; the letter(s) following the hyphen describe the inside of the corona. Hence an all yellow daffodil is Y-Y and one with a white perianth and pink corona is W-P. For purposes of description, the perianth segments may be divided into three zones – outer, mid and base; the corona into three zones – base, mid and rim; so a daffodil with a white perianth and a corona with a green eye, yellow mid-zone and red rim would be described as W-GYR.

Y = yellow  
R = red  
P = pink  
G = green  
O = orange  
W = white

**Intermediate**
An Intermediate Daffodil is defined as a single-floreted cultivar from divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, or 11 with flower diameter typically 51mm – 80mm.