

TRIALS REPORT

2004

DAHLIA

Trials Office
RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB



**Entries receiving
The Award of Garden Merit (H3)**

'Ann Breckenfelder' AGM (H3) 2004. (Collerette) Raised by Geerlings. Sent for trial by Mr G Carey, 30 Dylan Avenue, Cefn Fforest, Blackwood, Gwent NP12 3NQ. Available from Geerlings Dahlias, Kadijk 38, 2104 Aa Heemstede, Netherlands. [Trial No 67].

Plant height 140cm. Inflorescence 10cm diameter, single with fairly large yellow-orange disc, carried above foliage; outer florets flat, broad, slightly overlapping and blunt, vivid red (44A), streaked yellow on reverse; inner florets green-yellow (1A) flushed vivid red (44A) on edges towards the base. Useful for cutting. Flowering from 6 August 2004.

'Cherwell Skylark' AGM (H3) 2004. (Small semi-cactus) Raised by Mrs J Davies. Sent for trial and available from Mr F B Taylor, Taylor's Dahlias, 12 Shawbury Grove, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DF.

[Trial No 56].

Plant height 140cm. Inflorescence 13cm diameter, double, carried well above foliage; florets long, narrow, top half revolute and pointed. Overall effect salmon-pink, with inner florets becoming yellow, flushed dark pink (48A) on reverse. Useful for cutting. Flowering from 6 August 2004.

'Fusion' AGM (H3) 2004. (Small decorative) Raised by Fa. Gebr. Verwer. Sent for trial and available from Winchester Growers Ltd., Varfell Farm, Long Rock, Penzance, Cornwall TR20 8AQ. [Trial No 80].

Plant height 100cm. Inflorescence 11cm diameter, double, carried well above foliage; florets fairly short, broad, overlapping, cupped and blunt. Overall effect white flushed pale purple-pink; outer florets white flushed pale pink (56B); inner florets white finely veined purple-violet (80C). Foliage is very dark green, heavily tinged bronze. Useful for cutting. Flowering from 26 July 2004.

'Gallery Monet' AGM (H3) 2004 (Dwarf Bedder) Raised by Fa. Gebr. Verwer. Sent for trial and available from Proculture Plants Ltd., Knowle Hill, Badsley, Evesham, Worcs WR11 5EN. [Trial No 149].

Plant height 40cm. Inflorescence 9cm diameter, double, carried well above foliage; florets short, broad, overlapping, flat, fairly blunt and slightly reflexed. Overall effect creamy white tipped purple; outer florets creamy-white, lightly flushed purple-violet (80C) at tip on reverse; inner florets deep cream (4C) tipped purple-violet (80C) on reverse. Flowering from 16 July 2004.

'Grenadier' AGM (H3) 2004 (Miscellaneous) Registered in 1954. Sent for trial and available from Mr C Lloyd, Great Dixter Nurseries, Northiam, Sussex. [Trial No 111].

Plant height 110cm. Inflorescence 9cm diameter, double, carried well above foliage; florets short, broad, overlapping, flat, blunt and slightly reflexed; outer florets vivid red (44B); inner florets purplish-red (59A). Flowering from 6 August 2004

'Jean Fairs' AGM (H3) 2004 (Miscellaneous) Raised by J R Crutchfield. Sent for trial and available from Winchester Growers Ltd., Varfell Farm, Long Rock, Penzance, Cornwall TR20 8AQ.

[Trial No 108].

Plant height 130cm. Inflorescence 10cm diameter, semi-double, carried well above foliage; florets fairly long, broad, overlapping, almost flat and blunt. Overall effect apricot becoming paler at back; outer florets yellow (7A) heavily flushed orange (31D); inner florets closest to orange (31D). Flowering from 14 June 2004.

'Kelsea Carla' AGM (H3) 2004. (Small semi-cactus) Raised by Mr A Hindle. Sent for trial by Mr D Walker, 3 Cleveland Crescent, Borehamwood, Herts WD6 2EW. Available from Halls of Heddon. [Trials No 57].

Plant height 140cm. Inflorescence 12cm diameter, double, carried well above foliage; florets long, narrow, revolute and pointed. Overall effect bronzed pink with yellow heart; florets pink (70C) blending to yellow (12A) towards the base. Useful for cutting. Flowering from 3 August 2004.

'Mary's Jomanda' AGM (H3) 2004. (Miniature ball) Raised and sent by Mr D G Houghton, 16 Ireleth Court Road, Ireleth, Askam in Furness, Cumbria LA16 7EN. Available from Halls of Heddon. Heddon-on-the-Wall, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear NE15 0JS.

[Trials No 22].

Plant height 130cm. Inflorescence 10cm diameter, double, carried well above foliage; florets short, broad, overlapping, cupped and blunt, deep reddish-purple (71C) flushed magenta (67A). Flowering from 16 July 2004.

'Twyning's After Eight' AGM (H3) 2004. (Single) Raised by Mr M Twyning. Sent for trial and available from Winchester Growers Ltd., Varfell Farm, Long Rock, Penzance, Cornwall TR20 8AQ. [Trial No 105].

Plant height 120cm. Inflorescence 8cm diameter, single with fairly small yellow-orange disc, carried above foliage; outer florets fairly short, flat, broad, just overlapping and blunt, with reflexed tips, white veined very lightly with deep magenta (58A). Foliage is very dark, almost black. Useful for cutting. Flowering from 3 August 2004.

'Twyning's Candy' AGM (H3) 2004. (Single) Raised by Mr M Twyning. Sent by and available from Winchester Growers Ltd., Varfell Farm, Long Rock, Penzance, Cornwall TR20 8AQ. [Trial No 116].

Plant height 110cm. Inflorescence 9cm diameter, single with quite large orange-yellow disc, carried above foliage; florets short, slightly cupped to flat, broad, just overlapping and blunt, white, striped dark red (60A) on each edge. Useful for cutting. Flowering from 14 June 2004.

H3 = plants hardy outside in some regions or in particular situations or which, whilst usually grown outside in summer, need frost-free protection in winter.

Trial Notes

Objective: To assess, compare and demonstrate a range of cultivars, in the open ground, submitted by professional and amateur growers.

Culture: Propagation is by cuttings taken in March from pot tubers over-wintered in a frost free place. When the shoots had reached 7.5cm in length they were removed as cutting material, making sure that the base of the cutting was taken just below a leaf node. Cuttings were rooted in propagation modules containing peat and perlite, but most proprietary potting composts are equally suitable. Young plants could also be raised by placing several cuttings in a 15cm pot and when rooted, usually in 14 to 21 days, potting them up individually in 12.5cm pots ready for planting out in early June. This year they were planted out on 4 June

A liberal dressing of compost was incorporated into the soil before planting. A base dressing of 35g/sqm of Sulphate of Ammonia, plus 35g/sqm of Kieserite (a naturally occurring mineral high in magnesium) were applied and raked into the surface.

Dahlias need regular watering to obtain the best results. Trial plants received the benefit of a full irrigation system and were never allowed to dry out. As the plants grew the amount of water was increased.

At the end of June, the plants were "stopped" by removing the main growing tip, which encouraged the plants to bush out and hastened the development of the side branches that bear the flowers. The plants grown at Wisley are cultivated for garden display and most entries in the trial, depending on their classification, were lightly disbudded to give numerous flowers and an adequate length of stem.

Dahlias are mainly healthy plants but occasionally they do succumb to virus disease. Infected plants in the trial were removed and destroyed. Dahlias are liable to attack by a variety of pests - aphids, caterpillars and earwigs - which can be troublesome from July onwards and require control by approved sprays. Dahlias are also susceptible to mildew and precautionary spraying of the trial was undertaken regularly.

Entries: There were 152 entries in this Long Term trial of Dahlias, which were assessed by the Joint Dahlia Committee in 2004.

Records: A record was made of first flowering dates, incidence of pest or disease damage.

Findings: The trial was sprayed for red spider mite, which had infected some plants this year. Both June and July were wetter and not as warm as last year. As a result entries this year were later flowering, with the majority not flowering fully until the beginning of August. However, the warm, wet weather in August led to vigorous growth and the trial then flowered very well, up to the first severe frost on the 12 and 13 November.

From the 20 August to 29 October the public were given the opportunity to vote for their favourite cultivar. The votes were counted each Friday and the top three favourites for the week were recorded:-

20-27 August (48 votes)	1. Tally Ho, 2. Brians Dream, 3. Irene Ellen
28 August -3 September (92 votes)	1. Trelyn Rhiannon, 2. Hillcrest Royal, 3. Lipstick
4-10 September (52 votes)	1. Twyning's After Eight, 2. Charlie Dimmock, 3. Wanda's Aurora / Twyning's Candy
11-17 September (49 votes)	1. Twyning's After Eight, 2. Freya's Paso Doble, 3. Fusion
18-24 September (38 votes)	1. Freya's Paso Doble, 2. Honka / Tally Ho, 3. Trengrove Millennium
25 September – 1 October (24 votes)	1. Trelyn Rhiannon, 2. Pink Giraffe 3. Karma Fuchsiana
2- 8 October (41 votes)	1. Twyning's After Eight, 2. Twyning's Smartie, 3. Ryecroft Ruby
9-15 October (20 votes)	1. Hillcrest Regal / Irene Ellen, 2. Tally Ho / Freya's Paso Doble
16-22 October (39 votes)	1. Irene Ellen, 2. Trelyn Sunset, 3. Ken's Choice
23-29 October (45 votes)	1. Trelyn Sunset, 2. Easter Sunday / Weston Sunup / Hillcrest Royal

Many other cultivars were regularly voted for but did not gain enough to enter the top three, these included: 'Ann Breckenfelder', 'Catherine Bateson', 'Don Hill', 'Grenadier', 'Jean Fairs', 'Omo', 'Pacific Revival', 'Roxy', 'Ryecroft Jan', 'Sir Alf Ramsey', 'Staleen Condesa', 'Stevie D'

Dahlias flower over a long period and this was reflected in the voting. 'Twyning's After Eight' was voted top favourite three times between 4 September and 8 October. 'Irene Ellen', which was voted third favourite in August,

continued to flower well and was voted top favourite for two consecutive weeks in the middle of October.

Judging: Members of the Joint Dahlia Committee inspected the trial at Wisley on the 17 August, 25 August, 9 and 22 September 2004 and recommended the Award of Garden Merit (AGM) 🌺 to ten entries. Some cultivars have received the Award previously and are marked accordingly.

The Committee considered the following criteria:

quality of bloom : flowering period : floriferousness : vigour

Classification & Award	Name	Sender
SINGLE FLOWERED		
	'Volkskanzler'	Winchester Growers
	'Twyning's Chocolate'	Winchester Growers
	'Twyning's Smartie'	Winchester Growers
ANEMONE FLOWERED		
AGM (H3) 2000	'Freya's Paso Doble'	Winchester Growers
AGM (H3) 2000	'Asahi Chohje'	Hewlett
POMPON		
AGM (H3) 1993	'Wandy'	Abacus Nurseries
	'Rhonda Suzanne'	Kent
	'Willo's Violet'	Pearce
	'Gurtla Twilight'	Pearce
	'Pacific Revival'	Wheatley
SMALL BALL		
	'Hafen Payne'	Payne
	'Ken's Choice'	Reid
	'Irene Ellen'	Carey
MINIATURE BALL		
	'Ryecroft Jan'	Godsmark
	'Andrea Lawson'	Godsmark
	DW971	Walker
	'Ryecroft Delight'	Godsmark
	'Jubilee Boy'	Hayes
	'Alice May'	Station House
	'Ryecroft Ruby'	Godsmark
	'Jayne Stonestreet'	Walker
AGM (H3) 2004	'Mary's Jomanda'	Houghton
	'Carol Melville'	Williams
	'Cornel's Way'	Station House
GIANT CACTUS		
	'Jeanne D'Arc'	Wheatley
MEDIUM CACTUS		
AGM (H3) 1993	'Hillcrest Royal'	Halls
	'Hillcrest Jessica J'	Jackson
SMALL CACTUS		
	'Deborah's Kiwi'	Winchester Growers
	'Trelyn Kiwi'	Winchester Growers
	'Kiwi Gloria'	Winchester Growers
Classification & Award	Name	Sender
	'Gilwood Terry G'	Porter
	'Ryecroft Rainbow'	Godsmark
AGM (H3) 2001	'Lilac Taratahi'	Walker
	'Karma Sangria'	Wheatley
MINIATURE CACTUS		
	'Weston Sunup'	McLelland

AGM (H3) 1999	'Weston Pirate'	McLelland
	'Weston Pandora'	McLelland

GIANT SEMI-CACTUS

	'Luther'	Carey
	'Dick Westfall'	Carey
	Large Semi-Cactus	
	'Kenora Challenger'	Halls
	'Smart Boy'	Hayes
	'Oreti Stacey'	Hatfield

MEDIUM SEMI-CACTUS

	'Geerlings Sorbet'	Reid
	'Staleen Condesa'	Kent
	'Skipley Gloria'	Carey
	'Kenora Majestic'	Carey
	'Primrose Pastelle'	Hatfield
	'Lipstick'	Hatfield
	'My Beverley'	Halls
	'Mish Mash'	Walker

SMALL SEMI-CACTUS

	'Sir Bobby M'	Stock
	'Ryecroft Dream'	Godsmark
	'Avoca Comanche'	Porter
	'Trelyn Rhiannon'	Tudor
	'Pearson's Benn'	Carey
AGM (H3) 2004	'Cherwell Skylark'	Taylor
AGM (H3) 2004	'Kelsea Carla'	Walker
	'Trelyn Sunset'	Carey
AGM (H3) 2000	'Davar Jim'	Whitton
	'Karma Corona'	Wheatley

MINIATURE SEMI-CACTUS

AGM (H3) 2003	'Oreti Jewel'	Carey
	'Clearview Arla'	Carey

COLLERETTE

	'Easter Sunday'	Aylett
	'Teesbrooke Audrey'	Orley
	'Purc'	Bracewell
	'Don Hill'	Reid
AGM (H3) 2004	'Ann Breckenfelder'	Carey
	'Janet Howell'	Kitchener
	'Sue Mountjoy'	Kitchener
	'Twynning's Pink Fish'	Winchester Growers
AGM (H3) 2003	'Hillcrest Regal'	Jackson

GIANT DECORATIVE

	'Wanda's Capella	Wright
	'Wanda's Aurora'	Wright
	'Sir Alf Ramsey'	Wright

Classification & Award	Name	Sender
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LARGE DECORATIVE

	LW.R.04	Wright
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MEDIUM DECORATIVE

	'Geerlings Moonlight'	Reid
	'Trenrove Millennium'	Winchester Growers

MEDIUM DECORATIVE

	'Orange Garden'	Geerlings
	'Phil Ledgard'	Ledgard

SMALL DECORATIVE

AGM (H3) 2004	'Fusion'	Winchester Growers
	'Primrose Diane'	Walker

	'Choral Fantasia'	Carter
	'Rossendale Ryan'	Kershaw
	'Bonesta'	Winchester Growers
	'Gilwood Pip'	Gillam
	'Karma Amanda'	Winchester Growers
AGM (H3) 03	'Stevie D'	Hewlett

MINIATURE DECORATIVE

	'Hillcrest Hannah'	Jackson
	'Heather Jones'	Reid
	'Bercliffe Molly'	Heeley
	'Brians Dream'	King
	'Willowfield Jackie'	Powley
	'Marston Lilac'	Taylor
AGM (H3) 2002	'Catherine Bateson'	Carey
	'Ryecroft Gem'	Godsmark

WATERLILY

	'Marissa'	Reid
AGM (H3) 2000	'Taratahi Ruby'	Walker
	'Sascha'	Carey
	'Margaret Haggo'	Aylett
	'Charlie Dimmock'	Stock
	'Gwyneth'	Station House
	'Onesta'	Winchester Growers
	'Nagano'	Winchester Growers

MISCELLANEOUS

AGM (H3) 2004	'Twyning's After Eight'	Winchester Growers
	'La Castell'	Winchester Growers
AGM (H3) 2000	'Honka'	McLelland
AGM (H3) 2004	'Jean Fairs'	Winchester Growers
AGM (H3) 1998	'Tally Ho'	Bridgemere
AGM (H3) 1995	'Bishop of Llandaff'	Aylett
AGM (H3) 2004	'Grenadier'	Lloyd
	'Juul's Allstar'	Carey
AGM (H3) 2000	'Marie Schnugg'	McLelland
	'Pink Giraffe'	Wheatley
	'Karma Fuchsiana'	Reid
AGM (H3) 2004	'Twyning's Candy'	Winchester Growers

DWARF BEDDING

AGM (H3) 1994	'Preston Park'	Aylett
	'Roxy'	Pearce
AGM (H3) 1994	'Fascination'	Aylett
AGM (H3) 1998	'Moonfire'	R.H.S.

Classification & Award	Name	Sender
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LILLIPUT

AGM (H3) 1996	'Omo'	Butterfield
AGM (H3) 2002	'Chessy'	Aylett
AGM (H3) 2003 STR	'Its Wicked'	Harvey
	'Dynamic'	Harvey
AGM (H3) 1999	'Brookfield Delight'	Rowlands
AGM (H3) 1996	'Harvest Inflammation'	Butterfield

DAHLIETTA SERIES

	Dahlietta Margaret	Ball Colegrave
	Dahlietta Simone	Ball Colegrave
	Dahlietta Anna	Ball Colegrave
	Dahlietta Lizzy	Ball Colegrave
	Dahlietta Emily	Ball Colegrave

DALINA SERIES

	Dalina Tahiti	Proculture
	Dalina Bermuda	Proculture

	Dalina Jamaica	Proculture
	Dalina Sumatra	Proculture
	Dalina Barbados	Proculture
	Dalina Sulawesi	Proculture
	Dalina Salomon	Proculture
	Dalina Borneo	Proculture
	Dalina Tonga	Proculture
	Dalina Hawaii	Proculture
	Dalina Malaysia	Proculture
	Dalina Bali	Proculture

DAHLINOVA SERIES

	'Pecos'	Yoder Toddington
	'Panuco'	Yoder Toddington
	'Sabinas'	Yoder Toddington
	'Jacqui'	Yoder Toddington
	'Balsas'	Yoder Toddington

GALLERY SERIES

AGM (H3) 2004	'Gallery Monet'	Proculture
AGM (H3) 2002	'Gallery Cobra'	Proculture
AGM (H3) 1999	'Gallery Art Deco'	Proculture
AGM (H3) 1999	'Gallery Art Nouveau'	Proculture

Name and Address of Senders to the Trial

Abacus Nurseries, Drummau Road, Skewen, Neath SA10 6NW
 Aylett Nurseries Ltd., North Orbital Road, London Colney, St Albans AL2 1DJ
 Ball Colegrave Ltd., West Adderbury, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX17 3EY
 Mr H N Bracewell, 'Nomad' 50 Priory Lane, Penwortham, Preston PR1 0AS
 Bridgemere Nurseries, Bridgemere, Near Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 7QB
 Butterfields Nursery, Harvest Hill, Upper Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5JJ
 Mr G Carey, 30 Dylan Avenue, Cefn Fforest, Blackwood, Gwent NP12 3NQ
 Mr E A Carter, 10 Pike Road, Coleford, Gloucestershire GL16 8DE
 Mr A G Davies, 1 Fleming Way, Honeyborough, Neyland, Pembrokeshire SA73 1SD
 Geerlings Dahlias, Kadijk 38, 2104 Aa Heemstede, Netherlands
 Mr D Gillam, 48 Thackeray Row, Wickford, Essex SS12 9EG
 Mr P Godsmark, Ryecroft Dahlias, 21 Spierbridge Road, Storrington, Sussex RH20 4PG
 Halls of Heddon, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear NE15 0JS
 Mr M P Harvey, 12 Marriotts Lane, Haddenham, Aylesbury, Bucks HP17 8BN
 Mr T Hayes, 49 Mortimer Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 1FC
 Mr C Heeley, 2 Glynne Street, Connah's Quay, Deeside, Flintshire CH5 4RA
 Mr D Houghton, 16 Ireleth Court Road, Ireleth, Askam in Furness, Cumbria LA16 7EN
 Mr L Jackson, 79 Cant Crescent, Upperby, Carlisle, Cumbria CA2 4JJ
 Mr D Kent, 48 Vickers Road, Ashvale, Surrey GU12 5SE
 Mr D Kershaw, 15 Hamer Avenue, Loveclough, Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 8QH
 Mr B King, 62 Winchester Road, Blaby, Leicestershire LE8 4HJ
 Mr I Kitchener, 10 Higher Loughborough, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 5AE
 Mr P Ledgard, 2 Bridle Lane, Netherton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF4 4HN
 Mr C Lloyd, Great Dixter, Northiam, Sussex
 Mr T E McLelland, 32 Long Street, Bulkington, Bedworth, Warwickshire CV12 9JZ
 Mr P G Orley, 82 Spalding Road, Hartlepool TS25 2JP
 Mr E A Payne, 5 Heol Wenallt, Cwm Gwrach, Nr. Neath, West Glamorgan SA11 5PS
 Mr R Pearce, Worlds End Nurseries, Moseley Road, Hallow, Worcestershire WR2 6NJ
 Mr R Porter, Porter's Dahlias, 58 Stanley Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 1LA
 Mr G A Powley, Willowfield, Finborough Road, Onehouse, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 3BU
 Proculture Plants Ltd., Knowle Hill, Badsley, Evesham, Worcs WR11 5EN
 Mr D A Reid, 28 Manor Road, Barlestone, Nuneaton, Warwicks CV13 0HY
 RHS Garden (Curator), Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB
 Dr D G Rowlands, 97 Brookfield Road, Bedford MK41 9LL
 Station House Nurseries, Station Road, Burton, South Wirral, Cheshire CH64 5SD
 Mr K E Stock, 27 Petersfield Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH7 6QG
 Ms K Strange c/o RHS Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23
 Mr F B Taylor, Taylor's Dahlias, 12 Shawbury Grove, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DF
 Mr R J Thomas, 14 Link Lane, Pulborough, West Sussex RH12 2AN
 Mr R Tudor, 34 Victoria Road, Fleur de lys, Blackwood, Gwent NP12 3UG
 Mr D Walker, 3 Cleveland Crescent, Borehamwood, Herts WD6 2EW
 Mr J Wheatley, Stonebarn, Moorledge Farm, Chew Magna, Bristol, Avon BS18 8TL
 Mr A J Whitton, 304 Raeburn Avenue, Berrylands, Surbiton, Surrey KT5 9EF

Mr D G Williams, 104a Woolsbridge Road, Ringwood, Hants BH24 2LZ
Winchester Growers Ltd., Varfell Farm, Long Rock, Penzance, Cornwall TR20 8AQ
Mr L R Wright, Dahliadel, 30 Malting Lane, Orsett, Essex RM16 3HJ
Yoder Toddington, Toddington Lane, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN17 7PL

The late Mr Hatfield Plants of these entries, or information on how to obtain them may be available
from the National Collection holder:-
The late Mr Hewlett Mrs Thomas, Winchester Growers Ltd., Varfell Farm, Long Rock, Penzance,
Cornwall, TR20 8AQ

Source: Trials Office, RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey
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