

Common Names: Daffodils, Jonquils Plant Type: Bulb Light Requirements: Full Sun-Partial Shade Height: varies Bloom Time: Spring Hardiness Zones: 3-9

Photo: Color Blends, Inc.

Daffodils (Narcissus)

Daffodils are bulbs in the Amaryllis family (Amaryllidaceae). They are widely considered to be one of the most cheerful flowers of spring. Daffodils are grown in temperate climates around the world, and its popularity has led to production of many varieties.

Daffodils are perennials that will return year after year and multiply for loads of spring color. The bulbs are planted in the fall and begin to grow and bloom in April depending on the climate. Depending on the variety, flowers either appear singly or in clusters on stems anywhere from 6-30" tall. Because of the wide variation in heights, colors, and flower forms, daffodils are extremely versatile bulbs.

Daffodils grow best in full sun to partial shade and tend to look best in clumps or drifts. They like moist soils during the growing season but can tolerate drought during dormancy. They are rarely bothered by pests or diseases. Deer and rabbits tend to leave this plant alone due to the toxicity of all parts of the plant or bulb. After bloom, the foliage provides the bulb with the necessary nutrients to bloom the following year, so it's recommended to wait until the foliage begins to yellow before cutting it back to the ground.

References:

https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/narcissus/ https://www.britannica.com/plant/daffodil

> Cornell Cooperative Extension Tompkins County www.ccetompkins.org