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Lifetime Master Gardener

Massachusetts Master Gardener Association

Some of my favorite bulbs are:

Tulips-

T. bakeri 'Lilac Wonder'

A little pink species tulip that blooms early

T. 'La Belle Epoque'

Peony Flowering Tulip- A different color a blend of dusty rose and amber colors. It looks slightly old fashion and faded. It goes well as a cut flower in my living room.

T. 'Angelique'

Peony Flowering Tulip- Shades of pink that truly looks like a peony.

T. Green Wave'

Parrot Tulip- green, pink and white, frilled and feathered, slightly contorted, green mid-rib. I use this one as a cut flower.

Narcissi (Daffodils)-

N. Stainless- Pure white with green center

N. poeticus 'Pheasant's Eye' Small flower, last to bloom, very recurved white petals, tiny yellowish green cup with red rim .

N. poeticus 'Actea' second to last to bloom, pure white petals with small yellow cup, red rim

(Although they sound the same they have a different form and I naturalize the 'Pheasant's Eye'. It is more of a wild looking flower.)

N. 'Yellow Cheerfulness' 2-3 small, pale yellow, double flowers per stem. It's a different form than the typical yellow trumpet daffodil and the yellow is a nice soft yellow.

N. 'Mrs. R.O. Backhouse' White petals and "pink" trumpet (all pinks tend to be slightly peachy) It was the first pink from 1927.

N. tazzetta 'Minnow' my favorite little daffodil!!! Only 7" tall with 3-5 flowers per stem. Creamywhite tiny flower with a tiny yellow rounded cup.

Galanthus (Snowdrops) are a must but there are so many different varieties with only minor variation. I plant these by the hundreds at a time. Pick your favorite and after a few years divide them just after blooming. This is one of the few bulbs that does well with divisions "in the green" (while still showing their leaves). It also should be planted early when planting bulbs (September/early October).

I have thousands of grape hyacinths (Muscari) I plant only the basic blue M. armeniacum.

Camassia leichtlinii Caerulea Mid-blue to lavender sikes of flowers in late May/early June for damp areas.

Allium aflatunense 'Purple Sensation' I have dozens and dozens of these 4-5" globes hovering though out certain areas of my perennial borders.

These are only a few of the bulbs I love. Try a few, look at the different catalogues, compare, write and rewrite your lists and dream of a beautiful, colorful spring. **Enjoy!**