



CHRISTENSEN'S PLANT CENTER

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Noteworthy new bulbs for fall

I'm sitting here writing this article and recalling a particular morning whereby I had to don a sweatshirt and jacket over my usual t-shirt. Granted, that may not seem strange except for the fact that it was July! I half expected to turn the corner here at the nursery and be mortified to see mums already.



'Temple of Beauty' Tulip
photo courtesy of ruigrokflowerbulbs.com

Chilly summer days aside, autumn should be upon us before long and I'd like to highlight some new bulbs soon to grace our shelves. Here are some new Narcissi worth mentioning: 'Cassata' is a split-cup daffodil with creamy white petals; the cup opens lemon-yellow and then matures to near white. It reaches 16-18", early to mid-spring. 'Chromacolor' is a sweet-looking Trumpet-type with pure white petals and a bright coral-pink cup; 14-16" tall in mid-April. Nice fragrance, too!

Moving on to "Tulip Land", 'Beauty of Parade' and 'Gudoshnik'(both Darwin hybrids) are each excellent choices for multi-color in the landscape. The former ranges from solid yellow or orange, to variegations of both colors. 'Gudoshnik' (Russian for "Artist") has similar variegation, but in red and creamy yellow. Both varieties reach 22-24" tall in mid-April.

The ornamental onion family boasts 'Summer Drummer', a very tall Allium with an 8" ball-shaped flower composed of purple and white florets. Highly fragrant, it can reach 48-72" tall, and is deer and rabbit resistant.

Here are a few more bulbs of interest:

- 'Altruist'- Small cupped, cream-colored daffodil with a deep apricot corolla. 14-18", End April/Early May
- 'Banja Luka'- Darwin hybrid tulip that is marigold yellow with red feathering and petal edges. 22", April
- 'Synaeda Amor'- Triumph tulip that opens deep lilac-rose with lighter pink edges. 18-20", April/May
- 'Temple of Beauty'- Single, late, deep rose tulip with salmon-colored edges. 28-30"

BONUS TULIP TIDBIT: Triumph, Parrot, Lily Flowering and Double Early tulips are among the best for cut flowers. Newer varieties are also being bred just for this trait, so keep an eye out!



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'Altruist' Narcissus
photo courtesy of ruigrokflowerbulbs.com