

Canadian Iris Society

cis newsletter

Spring 2014 Volume 58 Issue 2

Inside Out

Hybridizer: M. Sutton

2013



Raspberry Frost

Hybridizer: G. Sutton

2001

Canadian Iris Society

Board of Directors

Officers for 2014

President	Ed Jowett , 1960 Sideroad 15, RR#2 Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0 ph: 905-936-9941 email: jowettfarm@copper.net	2014-2016
1st Vice President	John Moons , 34 Langford Rd., RR#1 Brantford ON N3T 5L4 ph: 519-752-9756	2014-2016
2nd Vice President	Harold Crawford , 81 Marksam Road, Guelph, ON N1H 6T1 ph: 519-822-5886 e-mail: hrcrawford@sympatico.ca	(Honorary)
Acting Secretary	Ann Granatier , 3674 Indian Trail, RR#8 Brantford ON N3T 5M1 ph: 519-647-9746 email: ann@trailsendiris.com	2013-2015
Treasurer	Bob Granatier , 3674 Indian Trail, RR#8 Brantford ON N3T 5M1 ph: 519-647-9746 email: bob@trailsendiris.com	2014-2016
Membership	Chris Hollinshead , 3070 Windwood Dr, Mississauga, ON L5N 2K3 ph: 905 567-8545 e-mail: cdniris@gmail.com	2014-2016

Directors at Large

Director	Alan McMurtrie , 22 Calderon Cres. Willowdale ON M2R 2E5 ph: 416-221-4344 email: alan.mcmurtrie@gmail.com	2013-2015
Director	Pat Loy 18 Smithfield Drive, Etobicoke On M8Y 3M2 ph: 416-251-9136 email: loy_pat@yahoo.ca	2013-2015
Director	Gloria McMillen , 285116 Pleasant Valley Rd. Norwich, ON N0J 1P0 ph: 519 468-3279 e-mail: gmcmillen@execulink.com	2014-2016

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Hon. Director **David Schmidt**, 18 Fleming Ave., Dundas, ON L9H 5Z4

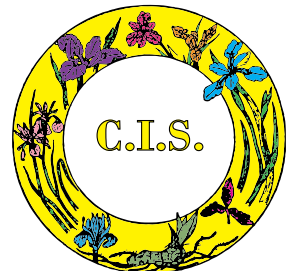
Webmaster	Chris Hollinshead , 3070 Windwood Dr, Mississauga, ON L5N 2K3 ph: 905 567-8545 e-mail: cdniris@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Ed Jowett , 1960 Sideroad 15, RR#2 Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0 ph: 905-936-9941 email: jowettfarm@copper.net
Newsletter Designer	Vaughn Dragland ph. 416-622-8789 email: vaughn@e-clipse.ca

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Cover Photos: *Inside Out*, by M. Sutton,
and *Raspberry Frost*, by G. Sutton

In loving memory of two late great
hybridizers.



President's Report

By Ed Jowett

In this publication I am pleased to announce some of this seasons current introductions at good pricing. Some may think they are expensive but if you consider the exchange on Canadian to U.S. funds plus shipping cost and phydo expense; then add our great 13% HST tax. This works out to almost 26%. I am sure you will agree we got a bargain. Our shipping cost looks high but this is also with adding on the taxes of 13 or 5 per cent. We have chosen mostly mid-season to late cultivars for our Canadian climate.



We are trying something new again in order to try and bring our members more savings and thus increase their Iris collections. We are trying a fall shipment of Siberians and Spuria Irises. Both of these sales are included in this bulletin.

I finally got to deliver the “Walker Ross” award to Chris Hollinshead. For those who don't know the background, this award is given to anyone giving extra service to the Canadian Iris Society. Chris was editor for nine years, and still writes for the newsletter. He has been membership chairman for I don't know how long. He maintains our website, keeping it up to date. He keeps the Board posted with up-to-date memberships. He quietly is always promoting the society. He made the mini catalogs of this year's purchase acquisitions (he always does) which is included in this issue.

The McMillen Gardens farm has been sold. They will no longer be a Canadian source for irises.

The Can West and Southern Ontario societies have given us their show schedules which we have included in this newsletter.

We have had inquiries to reprint some of our information from other societies outside Canada. We also have others placing links to our website which is great exposure for us.

With spring only a few days off officially one wonders with all the snow and excessive cold if it is really true.

The comments and statements in this bulletin are those of the writers and not necessary those of the board or society.

For those members that have a computer you can see some great new introductions by going to Terry Aikens' site: www.flowerfantasy.net or Tom Johnson's site www.beardedirisflowers.com and even Keith Keppel's site, although he does not ship out of U.S.A. www.keithkeppeliris.com. I am happy to report one of our Past presidents John McMillen is back to hybridizing quite strong. John has introduced a number of new intros this year and you can find them on "Trails End Iris Gardens" website www.trailsendirises.com. Look for some of these intros farther on in this issue.

We are looking for someone to join us on the Board with only 4 meetings per year. I am sure one of our members could step up. Come join us and see what joy there is in this great flower.

As I am writing this it is blowing snow which makes the scenery out the window "Blah". I can only see about 3 hundred yards; but I am hopeful it will disappear very soon. I am sure our good friends in the western provinces have had enough too since they seem to get it a few days before us. I have a daughter in Alberta and she keeps me posted what's coming.

By the time you receive this bulletin the gardens listed as sources should be starting to bloom and mine included. I am sure if you phone for approval you should be able to visit and see the bloom. All have information as to how to contact them.



Ed Jowett

Canadian Iris Society:

You are invited to join the Canadian Iris Society. Membership in the CIS is open to all persons interested in irises regardless of skills or experience. New members are welcome. Official membership applications and other information will be available at the show or on the official CIS website: www.cdn-iris.ca.

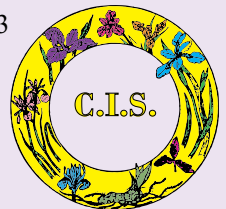
CIS Officers:

President: **Ed Jowett** 905-936-9941 <jowettfarm@copper.net>

Membership: **Chris Hollinshead** 905-567-8545

3070 Windwood Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 2K3

<cdniris@gmail.com>



Musings From Manitoba



By: B. J. Jackson

(jacksonb@mts.net)

As I write this the sun is shining brightly and the Cedar Waxwings are making their wonderful calls outside the back door. But there is still more than a foot of white stuff covering the yard. The new garden area is mostly bare (again) after last weekend's snow storm but it is still far too cold for this time of year! Several Manitoba cities and towns set low temperature records at least once over the past week and nights have been unseasonably cold, even for us. I am certain that the iris that have emerged from under their insulating blanket will suffer some form of cold damage but because it is too wet yet to step on I can only peek at them in the garden from the periphery. What I want to know is when is it going to end? Yet another storm system is on its way and whether we will be in the snow or the rain side is anyone's guess. But it has to get better soon, doesn't it?



It is a spring (or absence thereof) that makes me glad that the Can-West Iris Society annual show is a bit later this year. Perhaps someone knew something I didn't when the only date available was June 15th. Originally I thought the later date would allow for the exhibiting of more tall bearded or Siberians, but at this point with the warm temperatures still evading us, I wonder if the show will be another SDB showcase. As a wise irisarian once told me, we do the show we do. Not a thing we can do about the weather. And it will warm up, the snow will disappear and the iris will start putting on new growth and amaze me when they bloom. It happens every year, but after this winter that seems to have gone on for far too long, I think I can be excused my somewhat pessimistic outlook.

The last part of the winter was spent firming up the plan for revamping several beds in the main gardens. And after having a brief look there this past weekend, my thoughts are on the right track. Once again several beds are under water and what manages to survive again this year will be moved out. It didn't happen last summer due to a back injury but the back is better now and it will be done first thing. I am very much looking forward to digging in the dirt again and rescuing whatever I can. It was one of those good ideas that just didn't work out. Not the first and I'm sure it won't be the last.

Part of the plan is to focus a bit more on the historic collections including both medians and TBs as well as the newer MTBs that seem to have become more prevalent in all my gardens of late. I am also looking at removing several accent plants that have not performed well in recent years. I know of several local public gardens that could do with the plant donations and I know they will be better off with people who can give them what they need and who will appreciate them. They were all great plants. I just could not give them what they needed and the motivation just seemed wane after the iris had bloomed.

Another new initiative for me this year is a community garden at the university where I used to work. Although the focus is on growing vegetables for students and staff to enjoy, since I also have three flower gardens on campus that feature various types of iris, it will be a good opportunity to spread the word about iris. I am very much looking forward to helping out with the project and to helping people to learn about growing their own food as well as introducing them to the wonderful world of iris.

So Happy Spring everyone. I hope it arrives soon!



Cedar Waxwing

A Syed - Midland, MI, United States

CIS Membership

Not sure of your Canadian Iris Society (CIS) membership term? Check your mailing label of the CIS newsletter for your current CIS membership term dates. If you receive the electronic version of the CIS Newsletter and you wish to know this information please e-mail the CIS membership chairman at cdniris@gmail.com and we will be pleased to advise you.

Early renewals are always appreciated.

Important Notice

Due to the high cost of postage and operating expenses, the CIS Board of Directors finds it necessary to increase our membership fees. The new fees are: 1 year \$20.00, or 3 years \$50.00 (a \$10.00 saving.) The new fees will be effective on the next renewal date starting May 1, 2014.



The Can-West Iris Society is a not for profit organization with affiliate status in the American Iris Society.

Membership is open to all persons interested in iris regardless of skill or experience.

For membership information, please contact Deborah Petrie at petrie@mymts.net.

American Iris Society

The American Iris Society is a not for profit institution incorporated in 1927. The Corporation exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the iris and is the official registrar for all but bulbous iris (ie. Dutch and Juno iris).

You are invited to join the American Iris Society. Official applications and additional information will be available at the show or can be obtained from the official AIS website: www.irises.org.

RVP Region 21 (Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, NWT, Nunavut, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba): Linda Wilke (lrwilkie@gmail.com).

Awards

AIS Award - Best Specimen in Show

Horticultural Sweepstakes:

- AIS Silver Medal and Certificate - highest number of first place ribbons)

- AIS Bronze Medal and Certificate - second highest number of first place ribbons

Best Historic Stem in Show - Sponsored by Can-West Iris Society

Best Canadian Hybridized Stem in Show - Sponsored by Chapman Iris

CWIS People's Choice Award - Voted by those attending the Show

Exhibition Certificates are awarded to the outstanding seedling, plus any seedling that obtains at least five (5) votes from certified AIS judges.

All AIS judges are asked to contact the Show Chair in order to pick up seedling ballots.

CAN-WEST IRIS SOCIETY

7th Annual Iris Show

**Bourkevale Community Centre
100 Ferry Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Sunday, June 15th, 2014- 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Free Admission!!!

Show Chair: B.J. Jackson, jacksonb@mts.net



*Photo: SDB Cocoa Pink
Courtesy: El Hutchison*

CANADIAN IRIS SOCIETY BEARDED IRIS PURCHASE CATALOG 2014

Sale Starts June 1st 2014

Preview the Bearded Irises for sale on the next few pages, including the special “tear-out” order form.

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing



Abiding Love

(T.Johnson 2014) TB Late 36” (91cm) Heavily ruffled and laced. Light rose orchid standards blend to mid peach margins. Apricot styles. Mid rose orchid falls are paler around orange beards. Nicely branched stalks with 7 to 8 buds. \$33.00



Beauty Becomes Her

(Black 2010) a stunning beauty dressed in heavily ruffled and lightly laced, clear yellow with a paler flush over fall centers. Soft yellow beards don’t detract from her classic form and style. Strong, tall, show stalks have 3 branches and 7-8 buds. Robust growth insures instant clumps. Interesting parentage with great possibilities. Midseason-Very Late 42” (107cm) \$7.25

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing

**Bluebird of Happiness**

(Black 2012) The entrancing song of this little bluebird will put a smile on your face and a song in your heart. These classically styled, near-perfectly formed flowers are supported by strong show stalks having 3 branches and 8-9 buds. Plants are quite disease resistant and growth is strong and vigorous. Midseason-Very Late 45"(114 cm) \$12.75

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing



Class Clown

(Black 2010) Class Clown is bright, cheery and sure to put a smile on your face with what looks like a big clown grin spread over the falls. Standards and styles are bright gold. Exuberantly colored falls have mahogany to amber hafts becoming darker plum bands along outer edges. A big fuchsia grin spreads across the centers. Plush old gold beards complete this fun ensemble. Strong growth yields show stalks with 3 branches and spur and about 8-9 buds. Midseason-Late 41" (104cm)
\$8.50



Clouds Go By

(Black 2014) TB Midseason-Late 39" (99cm) These heavily ruffled, classically formed white beauties have falls narrowly banded light blue, becoming near white with age. Big, fiery orange red beards add a bold touch. Show stalks with 8-10 buds are the norm. Strong, vigorous growth makes it a most desirable garden subject.
\$33.00

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing



Die Laughing

(Black 2014) TB Midseason-Late 36" (91cm) Yes, you'll 'Die Laughing' at all the crazy variations in these mixed up blooms. Some have great variation in contrast and amount of color breaking while others are much more subtle. All are quite pleasing. 'Die Laughing' is an expansion of my broken color line created to provide stronger growth, better branched and budded stalks than is the norm for broken color types.

\$33.00



Enough is Enough

(Black 2013) TB Midseason-Very Late 35" (89cm) Compact flowers are ruffled and laced. Falls are the same mid smoky violet as standards but within a few hours centers pale to lovely satiny blue lavender. Big prominent red-orange beards make it anything but boring. Clean vigorous growth produces stalks with 2 branches plus spur and about 7 buds. Heavy waxen substance assures long lasting flowers. Excellent parent for strong growing reverse bicolors and amoenas.

\$18.00

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing

**Game Player**

(T.Johnson 2011) Game Player is a lovely and subtle creation. Mid cameo pink centers of standards blend outward to light buff margins. Lighter buff falls with darker hafts blend to pale cream centers surrounding large rusty orange beards. Strong show stalks show off these classy flowers. 36" (91cm) Midseason-Late
\$11.00

**Giorgio**

(Black 2013) TB Midseason-Late 40" (102cm) 'Kiss of Passion' has been used to help strengthen the standards of some of the current amoenas. In the case of Giorgio it worked very well. Standards are domed and strongly held in place. Tall strong show stalks have 3 branches and 8-9 buds. Growth is healthy and clean. You have to love those big orange red beards! Veining in the falls looks a bit like cascading fireworks.
\$18.00

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing



Good Morning Sunshine

(T.Johnson 2014) TB Midseason-Late 33" (84cm) Heavily ruffled standards are brilliant sunshine yellow. Fall centers are light violet with wide, shaded center ellipse of dark violet. Mid yellow gold haft's color continues in pleated ruffles around falls. Beards are dark marigold. Expect about seven of these showy creations per stalk. Growth is strong, vigorous and clean. Makes a fantastic clump. \$33.00



Homebody

(T.Johnson 2011) Even though she may be a Homebody, she still fixes herself up, including her hallmark bright orange lipstick, just in case a visitor should drop by. Amply ruffled and laced flowers are medium buff salmon with accenting violet flash around those orange beards. Hafts are slightly darker. Excellent growth provides many stalks in a clump with 2 branches and about 7 buds. 40" (102cm) Midseason-Very Late \$11.00

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing



Mahogany Magic

(T.Johnson 2010) What a wonderfully rich and vibrant creation Mahogany Magic is. Yellow standards pick up white areas veined yellow toward their tops. Dark yellow styles are touched red on their crests. Precisely ruffled, luxurious mahogany falls are given additional depth from darker texture veins. Smoldering burnt orange beards are emphasized by a cluster of muted butter veins alongside them. Strong garden impact. Midseason-Late 43" (109cm) \$8.50



Melody of Spring

(Black 2013) TB Late-Very Late 38" (97cm) Once you've seen it in your garden you'll be singing its praises. White standards have yellow margins and veins overall. Strongly flared and ruffled falls are white with yellow rims and hafts. Strong show stalks have 3 branches and 8-10 buds. Husky growth with average increase. \$18.00

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing

**Men are from Mars**

(Black 2013) TB Midseason-Late 40" (102cm) Men may be from Mars but this down to earth creation has fabulous flowers, stalks and clumps. Clumps are some of the healthiest and most floriferous in the garden. You'll be glad you have it. Note the gold veining in upper third of the standards. With Class Clown as one parent, it should be of interest to those breeding rebloomers. \$18.00

**One Last Kiss**

(T.Johnson 2014) TB Lateseason 40" (102cm) Oh, that last kiss can be so satisfying! Who knows where it will lead. Mid pink standard's and style's color is repeated in narrow bands around strongly flared milk glass white falls. Dark rose hafts show off unusual dark violet beards. Tall show stalks are the norm as is strong, healthy growth. Should be very useful in the quest for that illusive pink with blue beard. \$33.00

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing



Princess Grace

(Black 2012) Princess Grace was very fond of beige to rosy beige colors. This lovely flower hopefully captures a bit of her beauty in a palette she would find attractive. Plant habit is top notch in every way, from strong vigorous growth to show stalks having 8-9 buds. Clumps transport one to a place of quiet, serene elegance. One of the last to finish blooming. Midseason-Very Late 32" (81cm)
\$12.75



Rasputin

(T.Johnson 2011) Rasputin was most assuredly as colorful a character as the iris but definitely lacked the good-looks. Heavily ruffled, luscious apricot peach standards have a lovely rosy blush up midribs. Neatly ruffled, wide falls are rich wine claret banded mid rosy mauve. Light peach veins cluster around bright tangerine beards. Large flowers are presented on strong, well-branched stalks. Excellent increase produces instant clumps. Rasputin should give excellent bicolor seedlings with wonderfully colored and patterned falls. Midseason 34" (86cm)
\$11.00

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing



Reflections of Love

(Black 2014) TB Midseason-Late 35" (89cm) 'Reflections Of Love' is one of 23 seedlings saved from this cross. It is unusual to be able to select from among so many quality seedlings. Mid lilac standards blend to wide cameo pink bands. Wide, mid cameo pink falls are etched with darker texture veins. Orange beards add a bit of passion. Strong, vigorous growth produces show stalks with 3 branches plus spur and 9-12 buds. \$33.00



Sharp Dressed Man

(T.Johnson 2010) He's tall, dark and handsome and draws the eye of anyone walking by. Only the finest clothes will do for this Sharp Dressed Man. Standards are iridescent mid purple. Elegantly ruffled purple black falls have a velvety texture and slightly lighter rim. Only someone so confident could get by with such an outrageous orange tie. Show stalks with 3-4 branches and 10-12 buds help insure a superior garden performance. Robust, healthy growth. Colors are exceptionally clear. Early Midseason 36" (91cm) \$8.50

Tall Bearded (TB) Listing



Very Very Good

(Black 2013) TB Midseason-Late 30" (76cm) Who could resist these big flashy orange beards! Even though it has shorter stalks and moderate sized flowers, you still won't be able to ignore it because of the beards. Perfectly proportioned stalks have 3 branches and 8-9 buds. Strong vigorous growth assures instant clumps. Nice fragrance. \$17.00

Border Bearded (BB) Listing



Glitzorama

(Black 2013) BB Early-Midseason 25" (63cm) Neat color and pattern. Note gold bands around standards. Half plicata parentage. Should be nice parent for medians. \$11.00

Border Bearded (BB) Listing



My Cher of Happiness

(Black 2013) BB Midseason-Late 27” (69cm) Gorgeous form. Show stalks with 3 branches and 8-9 buds. \$11.00



Rustler's Rhapsody

(Black 2013) BB Early-Midseason 25” (63cm) Bright & bold color! Show stalks have 3 branches & 7-9 buds. Demonstrates the versatility of Here We Go as a parent. Fertile both ways. Strong clean growth. \$7.25

Intermediate Bearded (IB) Listing



Body Painting

(Black 2014) IB Early-Midseason 25" (63cm) Brightly colored clumps can't be ignored. Strong, easy grower. \$15.00



Code of Honor

(T.Johnson 2013) IB Midseason 25" (63cm) Strong growth creates clumps filled with bloom. Beautiful form one would expect from Bluebeard's Ghost. \$7.25

Intermediate Bearded (IB) Listing



Devil's Delight

(Black 2014) IB Early-Midseason 23" (59cm) Rich black cherry over gold minimal plicata. Showy clumps full of stalks and bloom.
\$15.00



No Restraint

(Black 2013) IB Early-Midseason 25" (63cm) Color you can't ignore. What a beard! Nicely branched stalks. Strong growth.
\$7.25

Intermediate Bearded (IB) Listing



Pop Culture

(Black 2012) Vibrant claret rose with big, showy dark claret-wine spot. Awesome color and pattern arising from combining pink/blue work in SDBs and TBs. Some fertility. Midseason-Late 27" (69cm) \$6.00

Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB) Listing



Cotillion Ball

(T.Johnson 2013) tetraploid MTB Early 26" (66cm) Loads of these pretty little peach flowers on well-proportioned stalks. Excellent parentage. \$10.00

Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB) Listing



Scrambled

(Black 2014) MTB diploid Mid-season Late 23" (57cm) Exciting broken fall color. Standards usually stable light violet. \$15.00



Silver Ice

(Black 2014) MTB tet Midseason-Late 27" (69cm) Minimal plicata. Fantastic branching, buds & growth. \$15.00

Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) Listing



Beckoning

(T.Johnson 2013) SDB Midseason 15" (38cm) Those big yellow beards will beckon you from across the yard. Makes a startling clump that can't be ignored.
\$7.50



Clear Blue Sky

(T.Johnson 2012) The name says it all. Nicely ruffled clear mid blue. Midseason 13" (33cm)
\$5.50

Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) Listing



Comic

(Black 2014) SDB Midseason-Late
 11" (28cm) Huge orange beards
 insure you won't ignore this
 character. Light gold minimal plicata.
 Fantastic parent.
 \$12.00



Crank It Up

(Black 2014) SDB Early-Midseason
 14" (36cm) Yes, crank up those
 orange beards. This is so far the
 strongest color of the orange
 bearded blues. Beautiful form.
 Lovely clumps.
 \$12.00

Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) Listing



Dazed

(Black 2014) Early-Midseason 12" (30cm). Precisely ruffled yellow & plum plicata. Bright & showy clump. \$12.00



Exclaim

(Black 2013) SDB Midseason-Late 14" (36cm) Clean smooth colors make this a standout. Eye-popping clumps. \$7.50

Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) Listing



Gate to Paradise

(Black 2014) SDB Midseason-Late
12" (30cm) Lovely form, color,
beards and clumps.
\$12.00



It's Not Over

(Black 2014) SDB Early- Mid-
Rebloom 13" (33cm) Reliable
rebloom in Oregon.
\$12.00

Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) Listing



Little Sweetie

(T.Johnson 2012) Lovely pastel plicata for that more intimate space. Warm peachy buff ground with wide mauve-pink plicata bands. Midseason 10" (25cm) \$5.50



Lovable Pink

(Black 2013) SDB Midseason-Late 12" (30cm) Yummy color and beautiful ruffled form. Coral pink beards. Very subtle plicata. \$7.25

Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) Listing



Matador'sCape

(Black 2013) SDB Midseason-Very Late 13" (33cm) Vibrant completely saturated dark orange beards! Makes clumps you won't soon forget.
\$7.25



Mister Mistoffelees

(Black 2014) SDB Midseason-Very Late 15.5" (40cm) Great color. Top of class and late blooming. Showy!
\$12.00

Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) Listing



My Cher

(Black 2012) Brassy tan standards infused slate violet up midribs. Mid violet blue falls with brassy tan bands and white luminata patches. Soft light marigold to white beards are a pleasant accent. Short raised white dart at end of beards indicates possibility of horns. Awarded "Best Seedling" at Median Convention in Oklahoma City, 2010. Unique and beautiful luminata. Fantastic parent giving plicatas with unusual colors and patterns. Midseason-Late 15.5" (40cm)
\$5.50



Oh So Sweet

(Black 2014) SDB Midseason- Late 12" (30cm) After many generations of breeding, this is the best and clearest of pink/ blue combinations but blue is very pale.
\$12.00

Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) Listing



Paint Pots

(Black 2014) SDB Early-Midseason
12" (30cm) Rather tailored and
round form shows off neat pattern.
Clumps filled with bloom. A garden
favorite.
\$12.00



Stop and Stare

(T.Johnson 2014) SDB Early 13"
(33cm) You will 'Stop and Stare'
What amazing color contrast and
fun yellow tips on standards. Superb
clumps.
\$12.00

Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB) Listing



Alas

(T.Johnson 2014) MDB Midseason 7" (18cm) Bright accent for rock gardens and other more intimate spaces.
\$12.00



Keep Off

(Black 2012) You can't ignore this bright little cutie. Hot pink flowers with clear grape spots and orange beards are a colorful way to begin spring. Easy growing clumps are covered in bloom.
Midseason-Late 7" (18cm)
\$5.50

Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB) Listing

**Pearly Whites**

(Black 2014) MDB Early- Midseason
7" (18cm) Oh so cute with those big
marigold beards. Clumps full of
bloom.

\$12.00

We hope that you find yourself some nice new irises in our sale catalogue.

The plants are limited supply of each variety and it is first come , first serve after the sale start date.

Thank you for your participation and kind support of the Canadian Iris Society.

The following segment shows some helpful information on irises:

- Basic components/parts of an iris plant
- Information on the different iris categories.

Canadian Iris Society

2014 Iris Purchase Program info + mini catalogue

This year the Canadian Iris Society (CIS) again offers a selection of special high quality iris plants for your growing pleasure. This program helps support the activity and function of the CIS and its registered affiliates, a further plus is that you get yourself some very nice flowers at the same time too!

Please take note that the CIS Purchase Program is reserved for current CIS members only. (if not a CIS member; see the note below on how you can still participate by joining at the same time as you order)

Here is how it works: Choose your special new irises from our 2014 listing, reserve them by prepaying for them now and then at the correct planting time later in the summer we ship them directly to your home. When your order is received the available plants are reserved for you. Order early for the best selection. All the plants are a limited supply and some of these will go fast so do not delay! With the help of our iris friends at a major commercial iris garden we have available a selection of recent iris introductions and they are at great bargain prices compared to what you would normally pay. These will be top quality rhizomes that will be shipped directly to you. The plants on offer are all American Iris Society (AIS) registered and named iris cultivars. Each will be clearly labeled and ready to pop into your garden. We will provide you with the info on the expected time of arrival once we have that information, but it will likely be near the end of July.

The plants listed will be sold on a first come first served basis to CIS members. Place your order by e-mail, phone or postal mail. If a plant is sold out we will notify you by phone or e-mail so you have a chance to change your order or cancel. Payment must be received before any shipment will be made.

The sale opening date: So that everyone has a fair and equal chance to review the listing and obtain the available plants, **orders will only be received from June 1, 2014 onwards.** There is not a fixed end date but as the items are limited in quantity your available selection will be greatly reduced as time progresses. Additionally, by the end of July or early August most transactions should be completed so that your plants have time to become established before cold weather/winter arrives.

2014 Shipping Costs: Ontario: 1-10 rhizomes \$11.00 | 11-20 rhizomes \$17.00 | 21-30 rhizomes \$23.00
rest of Canada: 1-10 rhizomes \$17.00 | 11-20 rhizomes \$23.00 | 21-30 rhizomes \$29.00
31 rhizomes or more: Ontario \$23.00+0.50 per rhizome | rest of Canada \$29.00+0.50 per rhizome

Please send your order and payment by cheque or money order payable to the **Canadian Iris Society**. Send your order to the sale coordinator: Ed Jowett, 1960 Sideroad 15, RR#2 Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0 telephone: 905-936-9941 | email: jowettfarm@copper.net

The 2014 Order Form is provided as a separate item.

2014 CIS Iris Purchase Program Order Form

Cultivar Name	U.S.	Year	Price	QTY	Amount
Tall Bearded (TB)	Catlg				
Abiding Love	55	2014	\$33.00		
Beauty Becomes Her	12	2010	\$7.25		
Bluebird Of Happiness	21	2012	\$12.75		
Class Clown	14	2010	\$8.50		
Clouds Go By	55	2014	\$33.00		
Die Laughing	55	2014	\$33.00		
Enough Is Enough	30	2013	\$18.00		
Game Player	18	2011	\$11.00		
Giorgio	30	2013	\$18.00		
Good Morning Sunshine	55	2014	\$33.00		
Homebody	18	2011	\$11.00		
Mahogany Magic	14	2010	\$8.50		
Melody Of Spring	30	2013	\$18.00		
Men Are From Mars	30	2013	\$18.00		
One Last Kiss	55	2014	\$33.00		
Princess Grace	21	2012	\$12.75		
Rasputin	18	2011	\$11.00		
Reflections Of Love	55	2014	\$33.00		
Sharp Dressed Man	14	2010	\$8.50		
Very Very Good	28	2013	\$17.00		
Border Bearded (BB)					
Glitzorama	18	2013	\$11.00		
My Cher Of Happiness	18	2013	\$11.00		
Rustler's Rhapsody	12	2013	\$7.25		
Intermediate Bearded (IB)					
Body Painting	25	2014	\$15.00		
Code Of Honor	12	2013	\$7.25		
Devil's Delight	25	2014	\$15.00		
No Restraint	12	2013	\$7.25		
Pop Culture	25	2012	\$6.00		
Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB)					
Cotillion Ball	16	2013	\$10.00		
Scrambled	25	2014	\$15.00		
Silver Ice	25	2014	\$15.00		
Subtotal page 1					\$

Cultivar Name	U.S.	Year	Price	QTY	Amount
Standard Dwarf Bearded	Catlg				
Beckoning	12	2013	\$7.50		
Clear Blue Sky	9	2012	\$5.50		
Comic	20	2014	\$12.00		
Crank It Up	20	2014	\$12.00		
Dazed	20	2014	\$12.00		
Exclaim	12	2013	\$7.50		
Gate To Paradise	20	2014	\$12.00		
It's Not Over	20	2014	\$12.00		
Little Sweetie	9	2012	\$5.50		
Lovable Pink	12	2013	\$7.25		
Matador's Cape	12	2013	\$7.25		
Mister Mistoffelees	20	2014	\$12.00		
My Cher	9	2012	\$5.50		
Oh So Sweet	20	2014	\$12.00		
Paint Pots	20	2014	\$12.00		
Stop and Stare	20	2014	\$12.00		
Miniature Dwarf Bearded					
Alas	20	2014	\$12.00		
Keep Off	9	2012	\$5.50		
Pearly Whites	20	2014	\$12.00		
Subtotal page 2					\$

subtotal from page 1		\$
subtotal from page 2		\$
shipping total (please see below)		\$
Total order		

2014 Shipping Costs:

Ontario: 1-10 rhizomes \$11.00 | 11-20 rhizomes \$17.00 | 21-30 rhizomes \$23.00

Rest of Canada: 1-10 rhizomes \$17.00 | 11-20 rhizomes \$23.00 | 21-30 rhizomes \$29.00

31 rhizomes or more:

Ontario: \$23.00+0.50 per rhizome | **Rest of Canada:** \$29.00+0.50 per rhizome.

Please fill in your proper address on back --->

SHIPPING INFORMATION

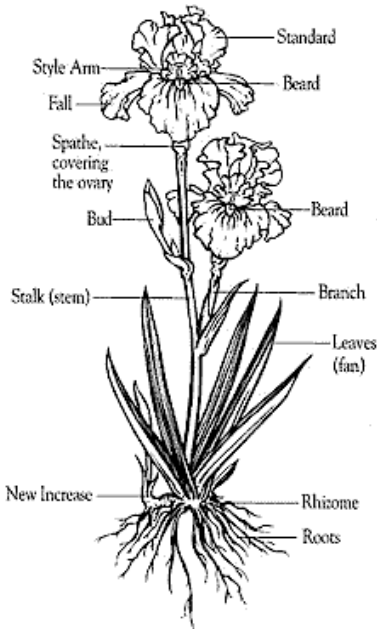
Ship to:	
Name:	
Address:	
City:	
Province:	
Postal Code	
Phone:	
e-mail:	
Date:	

Please send your order and payment by cheque or money order payable to the Canadian Iris Society.

Send your order to the sale coordinator:

Ed Jowett, 1960 Sideroad 15, RR#2 Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0
telephone: 905-936-9941 | email: jowettfarm@copper.net

Basic components/parts of an iris plant:



Falls: the lower three petals of the iris flower.
Standards: the upright top three petals of the iris flower.

Beards: the fuzzy, caterpillar like hairs on the falls, may be thick or thin, self colors or contrasting.

Hafts: the parts of the iris falls to either side of the tops of the beards, also called shoulders.

Anther: stiff, tiny stem like aperture under the style arm

Style arm: the three style arms rest above the anthers. They may be the same color as the iris or may be contrasting colors.

Spatha: the papery, eventually brown, covering of the emerging bud. This papery covering eventually covers the ovary of the iris as the flower emerges from bud stage.

Spur: a short side stem which may or may not be near the top of the stem or stalk

Branch: any branch which appears off the side of the main stem or stalk.

Stalk/Stem: that which holds the flower upright. May be straight or gently S-curved.

Leaves/Fan: grouping of leaves, growing from the iris rhizome underneath that fan of leaves.

Increase: new plants which begin as white waxy looking pointed buds on the sides of the rhizome. Increases provide an exact clone of the original mother plant.

Rhizome: brownish, potato-looking, fleshy portion of the plant that grows at or just below the surface of the soil.

Roots: The true roots that feed and nourish the plant grow downward into the soil from the rhizome.

Information on the different iris categories:

Bearded Irises are identified by thick, bushy "beards" on each of the falls (lower petals) of the blossoms. Originally, most of these were native to central and southern Europe. The (AIS) American Iris Society has divided the bearded irises into six groups for garden judging awards. The term **median irises** refers to all the bearded irises except the miniature dwarfs and the tall bearded; that is the SDBs, IBs, BBs and the MTBs.

1. Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB) -- the tiniest of bearded irises, with height of up to 20 cm (8 inches). They are also the earliest to bloom. They are most effective in rock gardens or planted in drifts where they make a "carpet of color."

2. Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) -- some of the most useful garden plants, ranging in height from 20 cm (8 inches) to 41 cm (16 inches). They begin their bloom as the MDBs are ending, still quite early in the iris season. They are best displayed in clumps where they give the effect of a "cushion" of individual blooms. The colors are nearly unlimited since the SDBs show all the different "spot patterns" of the miniatures, as well as the plicatas and pinks seen in the TBs.

3. Intermediate Bearded (IB) -- stand from 41 cm (16 inches) to 70 cm (27 1/2 inches) high, with their bloom season overlapping the SDBs and the TBs. Although the IBs show their dwarf ancestry in early bloom season and very interesting color patterns, they are large enough that their individual stalks may be nicely branched, forming an elegant bouquet. Some varieties are nicest in clumps, where they present a large amount of color (like the SDBs), while others are showiest in specimen plantings, where the stalks and individual blooms may be seen to best advantage.

4. Border Bearded (BB) -- essentially small versions of the TBs in the same height range and bloom size as the intermediates, but blooming with the tall bearded. Good BBs have round, ruffled petals that complement their small size.

5. Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB) -- this class is distinguished by daintiness and delicacy. Height from 41 cm (16 inches) to 70 cm (27 1/2 inches). The blooms are smaller than on a BB and the stems are thin and wiry. A clump of MTB iris in bloom looks like a mini-cloud of butterflies. They are often called "table irises" because they are so well suited for arrangements.

6. Tall Bearded (TB) -- have stalks with a height of 70 cm (27 1/2 inches) and above, with branching and many buds. Each stalk, in itself, makes a stately arrangement in the garden or in a vase. In addition to a wide variety of colors and patterns, the TBs display other qualities (such as ruffling and lacing) more frequently than do the other classes.

Thanks again and enjoy your new plants.

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Spuria Irises

By Jim Hedgecock

I wonder how many Iris lovers even know what a Spuria iris is. To go a little further, I am certain that very few people that profess to know what an iris is, have even heard the term Spuria irises. So I want to try to enlighten you, as iris lovers, about some of the truly wonderful traits of this family of irises.



Spuria Iris: ARBITRATOR (Ferguson 1966)

<http://chapmaniris.com/id35.htm>

First Spurias look different than the bearded irises. They don't have beards. The tall stately foliage resembles cattails. Here comes the first wonderful trait, they don't go over in the wind. They are fantastic as cut flowers. When cut in bud stage, the florets will open in perfect sequence. In some parts of the U.S., florist are starting to use them in arrangements.

The basic culture for Spurias is dry ground or no wet feet except in rainy periods. Spurias will grow just about everywhere in the US. They will grow from the deep south to farther reaches of Canada. They also will certainly grow on the west coast and east coast. In cooler climates they will bloom after the tall bearded irises. In the warmer states like southern Texas, Arizona and California they will often bloom with the tall bearded irises. Spurias love fertilizer. The only blends they don't like are very heavy nitrogen blends like lawn fertilizer. They love a dressing of well-rotted manure. I shudder to think what will happen if that is tried on bearded irises. They only need to be split every fifteen to thirty years.

Spurias are shipped or divided in fall months. Cold climates should plant in August while warmer climates may plant in September or even October. Spuria rhizomes should never dry out. Most shippers will place rhizomes in a moist paper towel and ship them in plastic baggies. If you are transplanting, put the plants in a bucket with a few inches of water in it until you can plant them. They should be planted as soon as possible.

Landscapers are slowly discovering Spurias, but the problem here is just finding enough stock for large projects. There is not a better landscape iris on earth. Period

O.K. I have told you about Spuria irises. If you have some now you need more. Finally please try some.



Copied from an AIS Blog by Jim Hedgecock incoming president of the Spuria Iris Society. (See our sale listing in this bulletin.)

Beardless Iris Share Purchase 2014 - Photos
Siberian



Here Be Dragons -
28" Unusual yellow bitone with overlaid blue tone \$6.50



Miss Apple -
30" several shades of red with hints of violet \$12.50

Beardless Iris Share Purchase 2014 - Photos
Siberian



Over the River -
30" Mid - blue with white signals \$6.00



Painted Woman -
27" falls red over yellow, pearl standards \$13.00

Beardless Iris Share Purchase 2014 - Photos
Siberian



River Dance-
45" Stunning blue with sparkling white on falls \$6.00



Silver Girl -
26" Ruffled flowers are lavender-blue with periwinkle veining \$14.50

Beardless Iris Share Purchase 2014 - Photos
Spuria



Burnished Brass -
40" Glowing brass brown with yellow-orange signal \$6.50



Cinnamon Stick -
40" Maroon brown' streaked gold; outstanding \$6.50

Beardless Iris Share Purchase 2014 - Photos
Spuria



Destination -
40" Bright deep Golden Orange self \$6.50



Gentry -
48" Lavender with light blue signal \$6.50

Beardless Iris Share Purchase 2014 - Photos
Spuria



Ruffled Canary -
36" Small white with vivid yellow blaze \$8.00



Russian Blue -
48" Species bred sky blue \$8.25

Beardless Iris Share Purchase 2014

Order Form | Shipment in Late September

Siberians	Year	Price ea	Quantity	Total
Here Be Dragons	2003	6.50		
Miss Apple	2009	12.50		
Over The River	2001	6.00		
Painted Woman	2007	13.00		
River Dance	1997	6.00		
Silver Girl	2012	14.50		
Spurias				
Burnished Brass	1972	6.50		
Cinnamon Stick	1983	6.50		
Destination	1984	6.50		
Gentry	1975	6.50		
Ruffled Canary	1970	8.00		
Russian Blue	1994	8.25		
Sub Total				
Special Packaging				\$4.00
Shipping				
Grand Total				

Shipping Cost		
Including	HST 13%	GST 5%
# Rhizomes	ONT	Other
1 - 10	12.45	18.00
11 - 20+	19.20	24.25
21 - 30	26.00	30.50

Ship to	
Name:	
Address:	
City:	
Prov / Postal:	
Phone / Email::	

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Dependable Dwarfs

Part 1

by Don McQueen



As you all know, there are several factors which draw attention to wanting to grow certain varieties of iris. The most common of these include a variety's colour or colour combination, flower size, time of bloom and even its exotic- sounding name. But for some there may be another characteristic which endears certain iris to us year after year beyond the other aforementioned "bells and whistles". We like our iris to be trustworthy bloomers and produce acceptable increase annually. In this series of photo essays I have chosen some examples of my Miniature and Dwarf Bearded Iris which have become favourites because they are just as described - dependable.

MARSH IMP ►

(MDB J.D. Taylor, Montana - 1971)

MARSH IMP has been growing for me since 1990, bloom ranging between April 13th and May 19th during those 23 years. It missed one year of bloom, likely following the time I moved the plant. Its increase is somewhat akin to a weed !

[Don's digital: April 28, 2009]



FLIRTY EYES ►

(MDB E. Roberts, Indiana 1972)

Here's another MDB which increases at the speed of most weeds. FLIRTY EYES has also been with me for 23 years. Since 1990 it has been moved several times, but has never missed a bloom season. During the years bloom has ranged between April 15th and May 21st.

[Don's digital: May 2, 2009]



CANDY APPLE ►

(SDB M. Hamblen, Utah - 1972)

I first acquired CANDY APPLE in 1989, and it has bloomed every year since, with sizeable increases each year. In my London garden I can count on it beginning to bloom as early as May 2nd or as late as May 27th. The clump has been moved only twice.

[Don's digital: May 17, 2005]



ZIPPER ▼

(MDB D. Sindt, Illinois 1978)

Yellow in spring is a must-have, and ZIPPER with those light blue beards, has been doing it for me since 1989. The glow can be as early as April 17th or as late as May 27th, but every year I can count on increase as well as bloom.

[Don's digital: May 9, 2013]



SKIP STITCH ►

(SDB D. Rawdon, Ohio 1977)

One of the earliest plicatas to bloom in the garden is SKIP STITCH, and has been increasingly doing it since 1990, even though the variety has been moved several times (to larger growing areas) ! Despite all of the moves, it has never failed to bloom, faithfully flowering during all these years between May 1st and May 23rd .



[Don's digital: May 11, 2007]

ZOUNDS ▼

(SDB B. Byth, Victoria, Australia 1984)

For me, ZOUNDS arrived in 1994, and failed to bloom only in the seasons after moves. It's combination of colours, beard and clumping always attract the attention of those irisarians savvy enough to visit gardens during dwarf bloom season. Flowering range during the 18 years has been between May 4th and June 6th.



[Don Digital: May 11, 2007]



News and Newsworthy

By Ed Jowett

I have chosen a few hybridizers: First a Canadian who has chosen to come back strong after holding off a few years. He is a past president of the society — none other than **John McMillen**. John's intros for the past couple of years can be seen on Trailsend Iris Gardens' website: www.trailsendiris.com. I must say, it looks like John is working for brilliant colours. In 2014 he has introduced:

“*Birds Of A Feather*” Standards dark blue edged greenish yellow, style arms lavender-blue with gold tips. Falls lavender-blue with ruffled gleaming gold edges and shoulders with white, orange tipped beards.



“*Bright Glow*” having medium blush pink standards with slight rim of gold and pink style arms. Falls light pink, gold-pink blend on hafts. Bright orange beards.

“*Dandy Dan*” A royal purple self with medium grape style arms and blush white beards.



“*Jenna’s Joy*” Mid to deep Lilac-blue self with white beards with gold in the throat.



“*Melonaide*” Standard are upright medium peachy pink, Fall are lighter peach tone with soft yellow blend creamy patch below orange beards



“*Twilight In Oxford*” a nice bright mango orange both standards and falls with bright red orange beards.

Next I have chosen **Terry Aitkin** of Salmon Creek. His introductions can be seen at: www.flowerfantasy.net.



The first I see is a Border Bearded named “*Bouyant Spirit*”. Mid to late bloomer with 6 – 7 buds. Rounded falls with exceptional rolling ruffles are the big attraction on this plant, excellent proportion and form for a BB sized plant. Light blue standards blend deeper at the midribs. Falls are creamy white with no haft marks. Beards are yellow in the throat, blending to orange with white tips.

Another BB “*Early Harvest*” is another mid to late bloomer and also a rebloomer. It is free flowering from August till freeze up time. Has 6 buds with ruffled standards a red brown softly blushed pink tan. Wide falls are more of a copper tan. Lightly ruffled with orange beards and no haft marks. Nicely proportioned.

Then we move to Japanese iris.

“*Essence of Summer*” Blooms mid to very late. It is a free flowering until mid-summer in the northwest



climate of Vancouver, Washington. Soft pink veined darker lavender – pink with very round flat falls. Standards are semi-erect with white style arms, tipped pink.

And another JI “*Midnight Fireworks*” Free flowering that continues till freeze up. Double sockets and 3 branches in springtime, rising to 56” with 5 branches, double sockets plus spurs by freeze up. Vigorous increase. 6

falls with generously overlapping rolling ruffled petals done in a uniform deep rich red purple. Bright sharp gold signal. Is vulnerable to extreme summer heat.



We then move to a nice MDB called “*Hot Coals*” Has upright standards which are Apricot – Orange, Flared falls are red – black



with a hairline edge of Apricot. Hafts are radiant bright Apricot surrounding bright coral – orange beards. A tiny plant with intense colours.

Then we move onto the standard dwarfs.

“*Chocolate Treat*” Standards are walnut brown while the falls exhibit a more red

brown tone; with a dark rich chocolate brown spot and sharply contrasting yellow/orange beards. A luscious chocolate brown.



“Fairy Fireworks” This plant produces a fireworks display of bloom that last for 2 months. Pleasantly rounded flowers with snowy white ground and deep blue violet petal rims on the standards and falls. Incredible sequential bloom which quadruples the typical length of bloom season.



“Let It Snow” Is a mid season bloomer then repeats again in the TB season. Has 3 buds a white self with a hint of blue in the falls; has light yellow beards tipped white.



Then we move to Tall Bearded.

“Cardinal Expression” Has soft red standards blending to rosy red at the midribs, and a matching ¼” Falls are washed light peach at clean hafts, blending to a very

light peach at sharply contrasting red beards; blending smoothly toward the perimeter band.



“Soft Sensation” A mid season bloomer ruffled closed standards and round ruffled falls are warm tan blending to deeper violet at the midribs. The falls ground colour opens very pale blue and fades to white. The beards are yellow in the throat, blending to pale blue at the tips. Has 7 well placed buds and produces a elegant show stem.



For more 2014 introductions see our sales catalogues included in this issue.



Iris bucharica or Bokhara Iris

By John Moons

The genus *Iris* is divided into six subgenera and one of these is the subgenus *Scorpiris*. These Irises are also called the Juno Irises. There are about 60 species known up to now. The Juno Irises have a bulb with fleshy roots. The roots look a lot like the roots of daylilies and must be handled carefully to avoid breakage. The plant replaces these roots every year.



Although there are 60 species in the Juno group, there are only a few species that are grown and cultivated on a large scale. The *Iris bucharica* is the best known of these. Most Junos grow in areas where the winters are cold, but have snow cover and the winters are generally dry. The summers are always dry and often hot. In Western Europe and North America these conditions cannot always be easily met. The Junos also need a very well-drained soil with a higher pH. They like full sun.

The *Iris bucharica* was introduced to the bulb trade by the Dutch company of C.G. Jan Tubergen around 1900. In the beginning this Iris was thought to be an *Iris orchioides*. The bulbs look a lot alike, but the *orchioides* has yellow flowers and most have hairs on or near the crest of the falls. **Sir Michael Foster** determined that it was a separate species and named it *Iris bucharica*. The name *bucharica* comes from the City of Bukhara in Uzbekistan, just north of Afghanistan in Central Asia. Mr. Foster described the plant in 1902 and officially the plant is named *Iris bucharica* Foster. In the wild you will find the *bucharicas* in the southern part of Central Asia. Quite often the plants are found in very mountainous areas.

The *bucharicas* have a relatively short growing season. In early spring the bulb sends up shiny green leaves. At this time the food stored in the roots is used up and a new set of roots will grow. The developing leaves are folded in interesting patterns before they are fully opened. The leaves are arranged alternately on a stem that can be 50 cm. tall, but usually it is shorter. The leaves and stem look a lot like a small corn plant. In the USA it is sometimes called the corn leaf iris. Flowers grow out of the axils of the leaves and at the end of the stem. Each leaf axil produces one flower. The flowers are about 5 - 6 cm. across with white standards and yellow falls. The perianth tube is elongated. The petals have long claws. The falls are oblong, rounded, crested and the end of the falls hang down. The standards are much smaller and three lobed.

The plants bloom starting at the end of the stem. Because each stem can have up to eight flowers that bloom in sequence you can have blooms for a few weeks. Here in Brantford, Ontario (zone 6) we enjoy the flowers in the second half of May.

Iris bucharica is dormant in the summer. The bulbs like it dry and hot. In the UK the bulbs are often dug up as soon as the leaves have died off in early summer and stored dry until the fall. If the soil is too wet in the summer the bulbs and roots rot easily. In the UK bulb frames are used to grow bucharicas and other Juno and Aril Irises. A bulb frame is a cold frame to use to grow plants that need dry conditions. Of course you can also grow the bucharicas in containers and control the watering.

It is important to have a well-drained alkaline soil for bucharicas. The bulbs should be planted at a depth two or three times their height. Spread the storage roots carefully. The bucharicas are hardy in Zones 3 – 8.



Iris bucharica

The propagation of bucharicas is not so easy. They will develop small bulblets around the base or from the natural division of large bulbs when left alone. If the storage roots are broken off they may make new bulblets if a piece of the basal plate is still attached. Make sure to keep them quite dry, because rot is always a danger.

Bucharicas can be grown from seed. It takes 4 years from seeding to blooming. The only company that I have found selling the seeds is Jelitto, a seed house from Germany that specializes in seeds of perennials.

Latvian nurseryman, **Janis Ruskans** has worked with a number of Iris bucharicas and has come up with a few cultivars. “*Swan Wings*” has extremely

long white lobes of the style branches. The falls have a narrow white rim. “*Monstrosa*” has no style branches, but has very large deep yellow falls with a prominent ridge. The centre of the open flower is white with erect white stamens in the middle. “*Tony*” is only 15 cm high with small light lemon yellow flowers with a crest. The crest is deeper yellow with green markings on both sides. “*Duchanbe*” is a good grower with yellow flowers. The style branches have a colour that is a bit lighter and sit on a tall stem.

Bucharica from other sources are:

- “*Princess*” has the normal yellow falls and white standards. It has a strong Freesia-like fragrance. It is reported to be a strong grower and blooms reliably.
- “*Lemon Yellow*”
- “*Conquest*”
- “*Sang Lok*”
- “*Tashkent*”

The Iris bucharica has not been crossed with a lot of other Irises. The one crossing that was successful was the cross with Iris aucheri. I have not been able to find out if this cross is available in the trade.

The chromosome number is $2n=22$.

The Iris bucharica has been awarded the Royal Horticultural Society’s Award of Garden Merit.



Books used for this article:

The Gardener’s Iris Book by William Shear

The Gardener’s Guide to Growing Irises by Geoff Stebbings

Buried Treasures by Janis Ruksans

Taunton Press

Timber Press

Timber Press

Send us your articles: The editor would appreciate contributions to the newsletter from the general membership. If you have news of an Iris event; or looking for a particular variety or type of Iris; growing or cultivation advice. If you have plants to sell or anything you would like to share. Send them to the editor for submission. This way we can make our newsletter bigger and of more interest to our readers. (For address see inside front cover.)



Who was Dykes?

William Rickatson Dykes wrote *The Genus Iris*. His name is known to every member of every iris society in the world. The name is also known to botanists. Dykes's enduring fame is not based on the irises he hybridized—although he did breed some outstanding cultivars—but on his scholarship and what he wrote.

Life History

Born on Nov. 4, 1877, he was a talented athlete and top scholar graduating from Oxford University with a Master of Arts degree in classical studies. He attended and received License from the Sorbonne in Paris. He joined the teaching staff at Charterhouse School in Godalming as Master of Greek and Latin and at times football.

In 1919 he resigned from his teaching position to accept appointment to the position as Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS). He moved his irises to The John Innes Research Station in Merton, Surrey a suburb of London. Dykes grew and bred his irises at Merton until 1924.

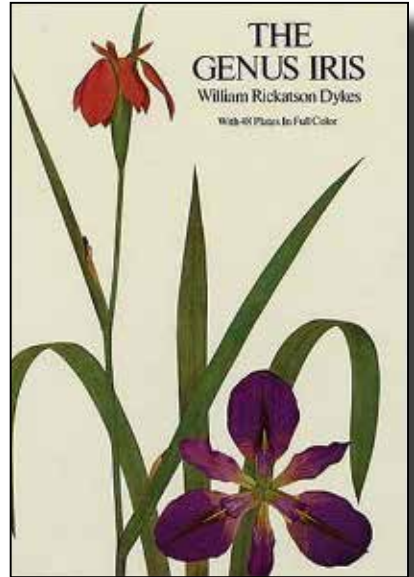
1924 took a wife, **Elsie Katherine Dykes** an artist and also a hybridizer. They bought a house and immediately moved his irises from Merton, planted more than 30,000 tulip bulbs. He had begun assembling notes to write a monograph on the genus *Tulipa* similar to *The Genus Iris*.

On Nov. 27 1925, Dykes was driving on a slippery road. His car skidded and he hit a truck, was thrown from the truck and was injured so severely that he died on Dec. 1, 1925.

Love of Iris

While still a University student he visited **Sir Michael Foster** at his home in Great Shelford. He was fascinated by the beauty and diversity of irises and the old man's vast knowledge. Sir Michael in turn was attracted to Dyke's intelligence and keen powers of observation. Foster had been searching for someone to take up his study of irises and encouraged Dykes to prepare a comprehensive, definitive study of the genus.

As soon as he became a Master at Charterhouse School and took up residence at Goldalming he planted a garden. Sir Michael gave him rhizomes and bulbs of all the irises in his collection. One of Dykes advantages in undertaking the study of irises was his superlative gardening skills. He grew almost all the iris species of which he wrote.



Hybridizer

He began breeding irises almost as soon as he started growing them. His early purpose in hybridizing was scientific, not toward the development of improved varieties.



Aphrodite

He crossed each iris with itself and attempted crossing each species with every other species that he thought might produce viable seeds. He grew many thousands of seedlings to learn species relationships and their unique characteristics.

“*Goldcrest*” introduced by **Robert W. Wallace** in 1914 crossings of 2 different iris pallida.

“*Richard II*” was introduced in 1914 by Perry’s Hardy Plant Farm.

“*Fulvala*” was one of the first to be recognised and was introduced in 1916. Fulvala hybrids are now known as Louisianas.

Most of his hybrids were introduced between 1921 and 1925. Best known were “*Adrienne*”, “*Silver Mist*”, “*Simplicity*”, and “*Sapphire*”.

Most popular was “*Aphrodite*”, with lavender pink falls flushed white, perhaps the forerunner of the “*Zonal Pattern*”.

“*Moonlight*”, introduced in 1923 is a tall (36”) iris with amber-yellow stds. and “smoky” yellow falls had a profound impact on future tall bearded development.

Other TB’s included “*Amber*”, a tall yellow in 1924, “*Lustre*” a red-violet, “*Cymbeline*”, “*Charmian*”, and “*Octavia*” in 1923-24.

“*Caucasian*”, “*Tiflis*” and “*Thisbe*”, were dwarfs. **Ben Hager** saw genetic magic in “*Thisbe*”. Its offspring have subsequently been used by other hybridizers to produce a number of excellent garden irises.



Moonlight



W.R.Dykes (Croesus)

The best known iris bred by Dykes was originally named “*Croesus*”. It was renamed “*W.R.Dykes*” after his death and introduced in 1926.

Publications

Dykes began submitting articles on irises to horticultural magazines in 1906.

He wrote about irises suitable for the garden, about iris types and iris culture. He wrote about the best garden cultivars, about irises that sometimes bloomed a second time in the autumn, about the history of irises, about iris taxonomic issues and indeed about every aspect of irises one could imagine. What he wrote was both factual and interesting.

He wrote the volume on Irises in a series of books published as the “*Present-Day Gardening Series*”, by London Publishers T.C. & E.C. Jack in 1911

Dykes wrote *The Genus Iris*, published in 1913, the most important book written on iris.

The first edition of the Genus iris is a beautiful book. It is sought by collectors of rare books not only because of its historical significance, but also because it’s half-leather binding and illustrations are the epitome of excellence. The book has coloured plates of seeds, 30 line drawings, and 47 full page coloured plates from watercolour paintings of iris species. It is however the text of the book revolutionized the study of irises.

In 1924 his 3rd book *The Handbook of Garden Irises* was published.

In 1924 he also translated *La Taille Lorette*, a classic text on the best method for pruning fruit trees. It was published in 1925 as *The Lorette System of Pruning*.

Dykes' Introductions		
Amber	1924	TB
Aphrodite	1922	TB
Aquamarine	1923	IB
Ariadne	1921	TB
Brilliant	1924	IB
Caucasian	1921	IB
Charmain	1923	
Cretan	1923	IB
Cymbaline	1923	IB
Gold Crest	1914	TB
Harmony	1923	TB
kurdistan	1922	mdb
Lulworth	1923	TB
Lustre	1925	TB
Moonlight	1923	TB
Octavia	1923	
Pedro	1922	
Peerless	1924	TB
Perdita	1923	
Pinafore,	pre-1927	TB
Pyramus	1923	
Richard II	1914	mdb
Ruby	1922	
Safrano	1922	IB
Sapphire	1922	TB
Silver mist	1921	TB
Simplicity	1921	MDB
Srinager	1922	
Thisbe	1923	SDB
Tiflis	1922	
Twilight	1923	
Veglia	1923	
Venetia	1924	
Wedggewood	1923	
W.R.Dykes	1926	TB

Botanical Research

Formal study of the genus was done at the botanical library of the Kew Herbarium. He used only primary sources. He assembled and examined the original descriptions of all supposed iris species—there were nearly seven hundred—and used preserved specimens to ascertain species rank validity.

He examined hundreds of iris species specimens in the collections maintained at Kew, the British Museum, Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, the Berlin Botanic Garden, the Vienna Hofmuseum, and Jardin des Plantes in Paris. He also went on iris collection excursions to Croatia, Bosnia, France and Italy. He corresponded with hundreds of people to obtain information about iris species plants and seeds.

Dykes reorganized the taxonomic structure of the genus *Iris* and in the process disposed of many errors and scientific misjudgments. Botanists and horticulturalists were astounded by the scope and depth of Dyke's knowledge. Dykes was 36 years old when the *The Genus Iris* was published. What is most remarkable is how well it has withstood the onslaught of new information and modern technological developments. Most of Dykes' observations and conclusions remain as indisputable today as they were when he wrote them.

Teaching gardening, hybridizing, conducting research, collecting and writing—his energy was seemingly boundless.

Recognition

His name is known to every iris society in the world.

1924 The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) honoured him with the gold Veitch Medal for The Genus *Iris*.

RHS awarded the Victoria medal of Honour in November 1925

The British Iris Society instituted the Dykes Memorial Medal to honour his memory in 1926. Initially, 3 medals were to be awarded each year, one to the best iris bred in Great Britain, France and the United States or Canada

What type of man?

He was an extraordinarily complex man. He was an introvert who seemed cold and distant, sometimes described as irascible and for cutting people short. But he had a capacity to generate fierce loyalty and devotion in those who knew him best. He was intuitive and had an almost superhuman capacity to focus on detail. He was perceptive and always searching for new information and greater knowledge.

He was a man of strong personality who made no attempt to disguise his emotions.

Dykes' remarkable intelligence, obsessiveness, poor social skills, boyishness and sudden dramatic mood changes are all indications that like **Sir Isaac Newton, Henry Thoreau, Bobby Fischer**, and any number of other geniuses – he had Asperger's syndrome.

William Rickatson Dykes was creative, and his genius was unique. He was a man obsessed with irises. He mastered scientific discipline-taxonomy with no formal training. He laboured to bring order from disorder and to extract truth from nature. He gave us knowledge and beauty. He is the person whose memory is most honoured and revered in the world of irises. This is as it should be.



Edited and abridged by Ann Granatier from the classic *Irises and the Men and Women who Created Them*, written by Clarence E. Mahan.



Southern Ontario Iris Society

Join the society that specializes in one of the flowers you love

1 Year	\$10.00	
3 Years	\$20.00	Save \$10.00

Join both societies (CIS & SOIS) and save

1 year	\$25.00
3 Years	\$60.00

Coming Events:

Sunday June 1, 2014 SOIS Picnic Plus Median Show



SOIS Annual Iris Show Schedule

Sunday, June 1, 2014
1 p.m. through 4 p.m.
Free Admission

Chapman Iris Gardens
RR #1 8790 Wellington Road 124
Guelph, ON N1H 6H7

Show Rules

1. The judging standard will be that of the American Iris Society's Judge's Handbook and cannot be violated. The decision of the judges shall be final.
2. Exhibition privileges are open to all, including judges.
3. All horticultural exhibits must have been grown and entered in person by the exhibitor whose name appears on the entry tag.
4. All entries **MUST** be staged between 8am and 11am to allow judging to conclude by 1pm. Late entries will be accepted for display purposes only.
5. All entries must be entered under name and in class number specified in the show schedule.
 - Containers are furnished by the Society.
 - The number of entries by an exhibitor is not restricted, but they may enter only one specimen of each cultivar per division.
 - The placement committee will aid the exhibitors correctly identify the appropriate section.
 - Cultivars are to be arranged alphabetically in each class to facilitate staging and judging.
6. The show area is open to the public only upon completion of the judging (approx. 1pm). No one is allowed in the exhibit area excepting the judges, the clerks, and the show chairman.
 - Special arrangements can be made for photographers before the show is open to the public; please contact the show chairman.
7. Exhibitors may not remove entries prior to 4pm. Unclaimed entries will be disposed of.
8. The Show Committee will exercise all possible care, but cannot be responsible for loss or damage to exhibits.

The major awards of the CIS are perpetual and remain the property of the society. All judges are asked to contact the show chairman in order to pick up seedling ballots.

Classification

Division One Iris Species

Section A: An iris cultivar introduced by a Canadian hybridizer.

Class 1

Section B: Historic Iris (introduced prior to 1985)

Class 2

Section C: MDB Miniature Dwarf Bearded

Class 3

Section D: SDB Standard dwarf bearded

Class 4

Section E: IB intermediate Bearded

Class 5

Section F: MTB Miniature Tall Bearded

Class 6

Section G: BB Border Bearded

Class 7

Section H: TB Tall bearded

Class 9

Section I: Other

Class 10 Species or Species X (bearded/ non)

Class 11 Siberians

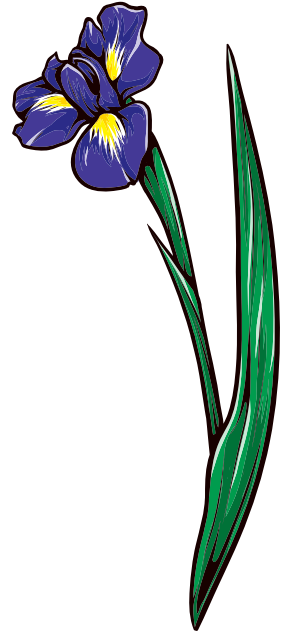
Class 12 Spuria

Section K: Seedlings

Class 13 Any named or numbered seedling

Section L: Unidentified (no name known)

Class 14



Division Two Exhibitions

Section J: Collections

Class 15 Three same bearded Cultivar

Class 16 Three different bearded cultivars

Class 17 Three Same Non-bearded cultivar

Class 18 Three different non-bearded cultivars

Section N: Herbaceous perennials and biennials as companions for iris.

Class 20

Note: Bulbous irises entered in Class 17 and classes 20 are eligible to receive award ribbons and special section awards. Award ribbons are included in the tally for Silver and Bronze Medal/Certificates, but these entries are not eligible for the “Best Specimen of Show” award.

CIS Awards

F.A.Garrity Trophy

- best iris stalk exhibited in the show

W.J. Moffat Trophy

- best stalk of an unnamed tall bearded iris seedling.

Les Richardson Award

- best stalk of an unnamed iris seedling other than tall bearded.

O.A. Kummer Cup

- best stalk of a named iris of Canadian origin.

Novice Cup

- awarded to exhibitor winning most ribbons in all sections and first time exhibitor.

AIS Awards

AIS Silver Medal and certificate

- Most red ribbons Division 1 Sections A-J

AIS Bronze Medal and certificate

- 2nd most red ribbons Division 1 Sections A-J

The individual ribbons awarded to the entries are provided by the Southern Ontario Iris Society:

Red - First

Blue - Second

White - Third

Pink - Honourable Mention

Exhibition Certificates

- best seedling and any other seedling receiving five or more votes from qualified judges.

Show Committee

Chair: Chuck Chapman 519-856-4424

email chuck@chapmaniris.com

Co Chair: Ed Jowett 905-936-9941

email jowettfarm@copper.net

Southern Ontario Iris Society

We are an AIS & CIS affiliate

You are invited to join the Southern Ontario Iris Society.

Membership in the SOIS is open to all persons interested in irises regardless of skills or experience. New members are welcome.

Join us at our next regular event, the annual iris rhizome sale on Sunday, August 11, 2013 at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Plains Road West, Burlington, ON.

Visitors (non-members) are very welcome at this sale/auction event. This is an opportunity to obtain some of the same beautiful iris on display here today for your own garden. We look forward to seeing you again. Official membership applications and other information will be available at the show or on the official CIS website: www.cdn-iris.ca.

SOIS Officers

President: Chris Hollinshead 905-567-8545

E-mail cdniris@gmail.com

Secretary: Ed Jowett 905-936-9941

E mail jowettfarm@copper.net

American Iris Society

You are invited to join the American Iris Society (AIS).

Official membership applications and additional information will be available at the show or on the official AIS website: www.irises.org. New members are welcome.

RVP Region 2: Judy Tucholski-Zon
138 Cresthaven Dr,
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
E mail irisjudy@aol.com

AIS affiliates are in place and also sponsor iris shows.



Join the American Iris Society

\$25.00 one year, \$60 for three years

Send payment to:

Tom Gormley—AIS Membership Secretary
205 Catalonia Avenue
P.O. Box 177
DeLeon Springs, FL 32130

Phone and Fax: 386-277-2057

Email: aismemsec@irises.org

or visit: www.irises.org for more details



Your new AIS RVP's for the regions aligned with Canada:

Region 1 Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, **Newfoundland/Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island**

Norine Veal nsveal@aol.com

30 Franklin Park East, Rockville, CT 06066

Region 2 New York, **Ontario, Quebec**

Judy Tucholski-Zon irisjudy@aol.com

138 Cresthaven Dr, Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Region 13 Washington, Oregon, Alaska, **British Columbia, Yukon**

Alan Brooks ebb1012@aol.com

Region 21 Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, **NWT, Nunavut, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba**

Ron Cosner keighley15@msn.com

328 Central Ave SE, Lemars, IA 51031

AIS newly updated web site: www.irises.org

Coming Dates to Remember

2014 Board Meeting Dates

Sunday Jul 20, 2014 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

2014 Publication Dates

August 2014 Vol 58 No 3 Summer Issue
November 2014 Vol 58 No 4 Fall Issue

2014 Events

August 17 S.O.I.S. Iris Sale
 RBG Burlington

Keep the Date Reserved

Sunday June 1st

The annual picnic and median show will be held at:

**Chapman Iris Gardens
8790 Wellington Rd 124
Guelph, ON**

It is the usual pot luck, so bring your favorite and enjoy the friendship and hospitality. Burgers and dogs will be supplied. For food preparation let us know you are coming.

Give a dingle and leave message how many are coming or e mail jowettfarm@copper.net and just say number coming.

Hope to see you all there, till then fine reading and a great season.
Phone information: 905-936-9941 or 519-856-4424

Canadian Sources for Irises

We provide this listing as a resource for our members and readers. This listing does not necessarily imply endorsement of the businesses by Canadian Iris Society (CIS). The sources listed have paid donations/contributions to help support the society. If you know of someone who should be added to the list please send the information to the editor. The listings in BOLD are members of the CIS

Chapman Iris

RR #1 8790 Wellington Road 124,
Guelph, ON N1H 6H7
Phone: 519-856-0956
Email: chuck@chapmaniris.com
Website: www.chapmaniris.com
On-line catalogue: \$3.00

Tara Perennial Farm

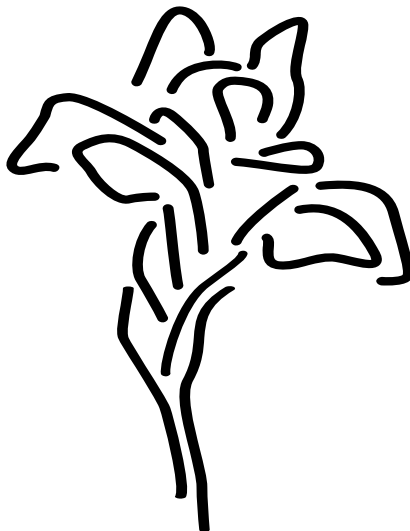
123 Concession # 6, RR2
Tara, ON N0H 2N0
Call for availability/price list
Marion Kuhl 519-934-3447
Website: www.taraperennialfarm.com

Erin Mills Iris Garden/ Chris Hollinshead

3070 Windwood Drive, Mississauga,
Ontario L5N 2K3 Canada
Email: erinmillsiris@gmail.com
Website: www.cdn-iris.ca/erinmills

Trails End Iris Gardens

3674 Indian Trail, RR#8
Brantford, Ontario N3T 5M1
Phone: 519-647-9746
Email: bob@trailsendiris.com
Website: www.trailsendiris.com
On-line catalogue



Liaisons and Regions



British Columbia Iris Society (BCIS)

Ted Baker, 185 Furness Rd.,
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1Z7
ph: 250-653-4430 www.bc-iris.org

Can-West Iris Society

B.J. Jackson, 2421 McDonald Avenue, Brandon, MB R7B 0A6,
ph: 204-725-4696 email: jacksonb@mts.net

Southern Ontario Iris Society (SOIS)

CIS - AIS Affiliate

Chris Hollinshead, 3070 Windwood Drive,
Mississauga, ON L5N 2K3
ph: 905-567-8545 e-mail: cdniris@gmail.com

London Region Iris Society

Gloria McMillen, 285116 Pleasant Valley Rd. Norwich, ON N0J 1P0
ph: 519 468-3279 email: gmcmlen@execulink.com
Please inquire for membership and group activities.

cis website
www.cdn-iris.ca

up-to-date information on CIS activities and many useful links to other iris sites and information

Canadian Iris Society
1960 Sideroad 15, RR#2
Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0



Walker Ross

CIS Newsletter

Published four times a year at
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1960 Sideroad 15, RR#2
Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0

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