



BULB LOG.....10-04-2003

The wind has not gone away but it is not nearly so strong now thank goodness, even in frames which provide a little shelter the damage caused by the wind can be seen.



Crocus scardicus

Crocus scardicus looks a bit battered but it will perk up as it puts up a succession of flowers over a month or so. This is one of the *Crocus* species that enjoys the colder growing conditions of the North.



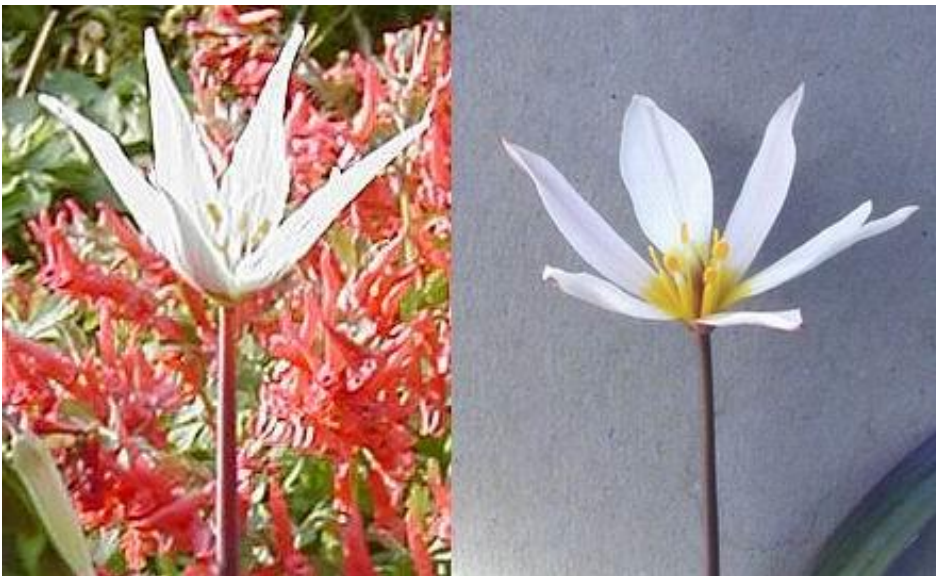
In the garden *Narcissus bulbocodium* is in full flower and the *corydalis* are still going, the pale pink one in the distance is *Corydalis* 'Highland Mist' a very useful cultivar as it is just coming out now as some of the other forms are going over.

Bulbs in garden 09.04

Erythronium oregonum

The erythroniums are just entering their peak flowering period and I was interested in this E. oregonum.

It is a group of seedlings and the one on the right always opens upright and does not turn over for about four days: I have watched it for a number of years now. It always reminds me just how closely related erythroniums are to tulips.



Erythronium, left – Tulipa, right.

The Frit house is at its peak just now with dozens of species in flower, we took 47 pots of Frits to the Stirling Show last Saturday and that was all we could fit into our wee car Verity Vauxhall.



Frit house 09.04



Verity Vauxhall

Some of the Chinese frits have come over in the last few years such as *Fritillaria thunbergii* which has been around for a long time but it is always good to get in some fresh stock.



Fritillaria thunbergii & *F. pingwuensis*

I think this *F. thunbergii* is a single clone that is not very fertile: in fact most of the flowers have no style and the ones that have, despite ensuring they were pollinated, have set no seed to date. *F. pingwuensis* is new to me and I am not even sure if it is correctly named, it is definitely different from anything else that I have seen, I hope that it will set seed this year.



Fritillaria tortifolia x2

I showed you *F. tortifolia* in the last log but I thought it worth photographing again to show its great beauty, this is not clonal and it does set lots of seed.



Fritillaria ussuriensis

F. ussuriensis is also settling down well having flowered for the last four years and setting seed, it also produces rice grain bulbils.

Two North American Frits now, the first *F. affinis tristulis* a well-known outstanding form of this variable species which produces masses of rice grains every year.

Fritillaria affinis tristulis



Fritillaria pluriflora A.M.

The second is *F. pluriflora* again for the second time in a row but it was awarded an Award Of Merit by the Joint Rock Garden Plant Committee on Saturday and I took a better picture for you.

Fritillaria pluriflora flower.





There are lots of forms of *Fritillaria hermonis amana* going around and this is perhaps the most desirable form.

Fritillaria hermonis amana EKB1034



Fritillaria grandiflora

Lastly for today here is *Fritillaria grandiflora* often called *F. kotschyana* ssp *grandiflora* but I cannot see why it is given as a subspecies of what I think is a totally separate plant. We grow a number of forms of *kotschyana* and I cannot see that they are that close.