

# BURIED PROMISES

## SEED LIST 2011

Bob Wallis, Llwyn Ifan, Porthyrhyd, Carmarthen, SA32 8BP

Email: [robertwallis@uwclub.net](mailto:robertwallis@uwclub.net)

Welcome to our first ever seed list. As Rannveig said in her Buried Treasure introduction this year, we are going to be sowing less seed from now on and this will make the excess available for distribution to our customers. Coupled with this we have acquired some stock plants from Jim & Jenny Archibald's incredible collection and these are producing additional seed. Please view this rather short list as just the start. It has been a very difficult year for bulbs and we have stopped a lot of our plants from seeding so that they can build back up. Moreover, we cannot resist sowing some seed ourselves because it such a great way to build up our collection! For this reason some are in very short supply.

Being perennially fed up with seed packets which contain barely 5 seeds and ending up, 4 years later, with one bulb if we are lucky, our aim is to provide a reasonable packet-full of each species so that you have a better chance of getting a small potful of mature bulbs. Consequentially, we will have fewer packets of each thing so it is first come first served. All of our seeds are from 2011 gatherings. In fact we are still harvesting some seed from our autumn flowering plants.

We have not done this before, so it is a learning curve for us. We would really appreciate hearing about your results and your opinions so that we can improve. Packets are priced very simply: A = £2, B = £4 and please add £2 for postage and packing. Please send a "not to exceed cheque" payable to R. Wallis with your order.

- Acis rosea***. A beautiful little Corsican endemic which flowers in the late the summer. For a pot in the cold greenhouse. B
- Allium acuminatum*** ex NNS 0012. Dog Mountain, Columbia River Gorge, Skamania Co Washington. Brilliantly coloured rose-violet flowers. Has proven easy in cultivation. B
- Allium barsczewskii***. A 30 cm high species from the high central Asian mountains with splendid upward-facing red-purple flowers. B
- Allium bollanderi***. A tiny little 8 cm high onion from the Pacific North West. Heads of bell-shaped deep pink flowers and two tiny thread-like leaves. B
- Allium caesium***. No data. Very unusual slaty-blue flowers on 40 cm stems. This was labelled *A caeruleum* in Jim's collection but it looks much more like this species but no guarantee. Both are beautiful and growable in a sunny spot. B
- Allium caesium*** ex JCA 17609 Burguluk Gorge, NE of Tashkent, Qarzhantau Mountains, Kazakhstan. Slaty-blue flowers on 40 cm high stems with hollow cylindrical leaves. B
- Allium platycaule***. ex JCA 12988, Plum Creek. Tehama Co. California. Large round umbels of deep rose flowers on short flat stems above the pair of falcate leaves. Easy to grow in a pot with same treatment as other high mountain bulbs. B
- Allium sp.*** ex JCA 17244 SW of Negel, Kordistan Province, NW Iran. Jim recorded this as having yellow-pink flowers on 60cm stems. Sounds awful! A
- Allium sp.*** ex JJA 17537 Amankutan, nr Seravshan, Samarkand, Uzbekistan 1700m. This may be *A protensum* or *A sarawschanicum*, both spectacular plants for the garden. A
- Allium sp*** ex JCA 17181 ENE of Firouzkuh, Mazandaran, N Iran. We have not seen this in flower but it is only about 15 cm tall otherwise it's a lottery! A
- Bellevalia hackelii***. Portugal. Very closely related to *B dubia* of which it is regarded as a subspecies by Feinbrun. Eye-hurtingly brilliant blue flowers in a loose spike. A
- Calochortus argillosus***. A coastal species which has proven easy in cultivation and prolific with both seeds and offsets so it is quick to build up. White flowers with a central brown and yellow markings. A
- Colchicum baytopiorum*** ex RRW 84102. Blooming in early October just as the leaves are emerging from the ground, this has wide open pink flowers which show off the yellow stamens and filament bases. Excellent for the autumn shows. B
- Colchicum kotschy*** ex JCA 17704 Suolmaz Pass, 1680m. By its source, this ought to be *C heldreichii* but it keys out to be this. Nice pale pink flowers in early autumn. B
- Colchicum hungaricum***. From mountains of northern Greece to Croatia. One of the best of the spring flowering Colchicums. It grows in snow-melt so the soil is very wet at flowering time but dries out later and the one for which Jim won his last Farrer medal in the South Wales Show. B
- Colchicum macrophyllum*** ex MD 607. Descended from a collection made by Martyn Denney on the island of Simi. Huge, wide open strongly tessellated flowers in the autumn are followed by *Veratrum*-like foliage in the spring. It needs a warm spot and is probably best in the bulb frame. B
- Colchicum micranthum***. A small species with white to pale pink flowers which flowers over a longish period in the autumn. B
- Fritillaria crassifolia subsp hakkariensis*** ex RRW 8726. Endemic to the small corner of Turkey near Yuksekova and very close to both the borders of Iraq and Iran where it grows in snow melt at high altitude. We are very pleased with the performance of this subspecies this year. It appreciated the cold winter even though it was "incubated" in the 'frig from November to February. Nice tessellated greeny-brown flowers with bright green foliage. B
- Fritillaria crassifolia subsp kurdica*** ex RRW 04034 which came from 2750 m on the volcanic ash slopes of Kuh-e-Sabalan in NW Iran. B
- Fritillaria crassifolia subsp kurdica*** ex RRW 04040. Another Iranian from SW of Tabriz. Both of these have slightly yellow tips to the flowers. B

***Fritillaria crassifolia subsp kurdica*** ex RRW 09135. A yellow tipped form from volcanic ash beds NE of Muradiye, SE Turkey. B

***Fritillaria drenovskyi***. Nice apricot brown flowers on elegant arching 12 cm high stems. From the mountains of NE Greece. B

***Fritillaria olivieri***. A committed wet-growing species from western Iran. It should grow well outside or in a large pot with a slightly drier rest in summer. B

***Fritillaria whittallii*** ex RRW9011. From the upper limit of the forests in SW Turkey near Gome. Beautiful tessellated green flowers. B

***Gagea fibrosa*** ex RRW92037. From the summit of Amanus mountains in Turkey. Our favourite *Gagea* because it has the largest flowers of all the species making it look like a little yellow tulip. B

***Hesperantha falcata***. A widespread species from both sides of the Cape. Broad petalled white flowers scent the summer evenings. B

***Hyacinthella acutiloba*** ex 1673. This species is widespread through the winter cold mountains of outer Anatolia. Stunning spikes of blue flowers with striking black anthers emerge from between the pair (occasionally 3) of broad, glaucous leaves. Two or even three stems per bulb is the norm. B

***Hyacinthella aitchleyi***. We grew the mother bulbs from Jim & Jenny Archibald's seed which came from the Greek mainland very near the bridge which crosses the strait to Halkida on Evvia. Clear blue flowers on wiry stems. B

***Hyacinthella glabrescens*** ex RRW 92110. Dense spikes of violet-blue flowers emerge on 10 cm stems from the broad glaucous leaves. B

***Hyacinthella heldrechii*** ex RRW 90103. W of Silfke, Icel, Turkey. Narrow grey-green leaves and spikes of deep, inky purple-blue bells on 10cm stems. B

***Hyacinthella hispida*** ex JJA 571160. Very distinct with its hairy leaves and dark violet flowers on 8 cm stems. B

***Hyacinthella lazulina*** Ex our original introduction from N of Kozan in Icel, Turkey. Stemless flowers arise on short wiry stems from the small glaucous-green foliage. B

***Hyacinthoides reverchonii***. Endemic to the Cazorla region of Spain. Wide-open blue flowers on 15 cm spikes. Easy under glass or in the garden. B

***Iris magnifica***. Splendid pale blue flowers from the axils of its 60 cm stems. This is easy outside and does well in a raised bed in the front of our house where it causes quite a stir for visitors. B

***Leontice armeniaca*** (syn: *L minor*). Emerging from an underground tuber, this studs the loose stony hillsides of western Iran with its globular inflorescences of bright yellow flowers which are framed by a pair of grey-green, dissected leaves. The fruits are like little green and pink party balloons so it is decorative for several months. Only 15 cm tall and does well in a pot but you only need one tuber per pot so: 5 seeds: B

***Leucocoryne odorata*** ex F&W 8668 Umbels of white, sweetly scented flowers with broad segments on 20 -30 cm stems. B

***Merendera sobolifera***. Grows in snow melt water with little pink starry flowers with the leaves in early spring. B

***Moraea alticola***. This forms a striking sight in one of our herbaceous borders with large yellow, Iris-like flowers on 1 m high stems. It even survived the last two winters unharmed or even enhanced! A must for every garden and it doesn't even need any staking. B

***Moraea stricta***. Beautiful small blue-violet flowers on 20cm stems. B

***Moraea vegata***. Unusual evanescent brownly-purple flowers in early summer. B

***Muscari armeniacum 'Gul'***. We have raised a strain of this beautiful white, fading to blushing pink flowered form which seems to breed almost true from seed. B

***Muscari caucasicum***. A tall *Leopoldia* with yellow fertile flowers topped off with a tuft of violet sterile flowers. 30 cm. B

***Muscari leucostomum***. There are lots of arguments about the taxonomy of *Muscari* but this one is at least horticulturally distinct from the closely related *M neglectum* with its blue black flowers with contrasting white mouth. Central Asia. B

***Muscari macrocarpum*** ex RRW9026. Nr Aktur, Mughla, SW Turkey. Superbly banana scented, the yellow fertile flowers are set off with violet sterile ones. It needs very good light to prevent it flopping and may do better outside in a sheltered, sunny spot. B

***Muscari muscarimi***. A plant of loose stony slopes, this is also highly scented perhaps a little more muskily than the above. Greeny-yellowish-beige fertile, and brown sterile, flowers. Easier to keep in character than the above and hardier. B

***Muscari sivrihisardaghlarensis***. A newly described species from NW Anatolia with white-mouthed, inky, fertile flowers and paler blue sterile "buds". B

***Muscari sp*** ex JCA 19586 E of Zara, Sivas, Central Turkey. Looks very like *M longipes*. B

***Narcissus dubius*** ex MS528. We have grown this for many years and it has good years and it has bad years. The worst of these come after it is repotted so we conclude that it hates disturbance. Neat little heads of creamy white tazetta-like flowers on 15 cm stems in early March. B

***Narcissus miniatus*** ex RRW89107. Growing right next to the coast throughout the eastern Mediterranean and barely distinguishable from *N serotinus* (It only differs in the size of the cup and size of its DNA, which has been checked!), this beautiful autumn flowering species won a Farrer Medal at the happily, soon-to-be-reinstated, Loughborough Autumn Show. B

***Nothoscordum montevidense subsp minarum***. A pretty little plant with heads of deep yellow flowers on 10 cm stems in early summer. It tends to be evergreen through the summer so it pays to keep it slightly moist. Worth a go outside in sunny raised bed. B

***Ornithogalum pyrenaicum var flavescens*** Pale lemon flowers on 40 cm stems. A stately garden plant. A

***Paeonia mascula subsp mascula***. This beautiful plant came to us under this name from Harry Hay which, if I read the label correctly, originated in Palermo, Bosco di Ficuzza, Sicily. It has made a superb plant in a surprisingly moist spot in our garden, emerging with an eruption of silky, glaucous foliage and bursts into bloom in May with huge single deep pink flowers in the late spring. 5 seeds: B

***Scilla graelhuberi***. An excellent *Scilla* for the garden with large blue reflexed stars. From the moist Caspian Forests of Northern Iran. B

***Scilla libanotica*** ex RRW9934. We are not too sure about the name but it is a superb large flowered plant which is very reminiscent of a large flowered *S ingridae*. It does well in a pot and since it comes from below shady moist rocks at high altitude in Lebanon, it is also a good garden plant yet is choice enough to show. B

***Scilla lilio-hyacinthus***. Large lily-like bulbs produce spikes of large blue flowers in the spring. This is best grown outside in semi shade. B

***Tritelia ixioides subsp scabra***. A higher altitude, and therefore hardier, subspecies than the type. Slightly smaller, dusky yellow flowers than the type with a distinctive brown mid-vein in loose umbels in July. B