

Crocus cvijicii

Flowering Time	Spring
Distribution	Serbia; Albania; Macedonia; N Greece
Native Climate	Subalpine. Cold snowy winter, short warm summer
Wild Habitat	Mountain meadows over limestone
Distinctive Features	Yellow flowers just as leaves emerge. Petals often quite narrow near the base giving the throat of the flower an unusually 'open' appearance. Rather flattened corm has thin fibres, somewhat netted
Closest Relatives	Crocus veluchensis
Cultivation Requirements	Cool winter, plenty moisture when plant is in active growth in spring. Cool dryer summer but not completely dried out
Availability	Sometimes available from specialist seed/bulb suppliers

Quite distinctive and attractive early spring flowering species. From a mountain habitat so less amenable to cultivation in lowland gardens but not difficult where the correct conditions can be provided. The name may be pronounced schveeyeech-e-e (or as E A Bowles suggested you might imitate a sneeze or play it on the violin!)

The most obvious difference between this and the closely related *Crocus veluchensis* is flower colour. The distribution of this species is almost entirely within that of *Crocus veluchensis* but there are no records of them occurring in mixed populations.



