SMALL AND TALL IRISES "The Flowers of Spring"

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Dear Friends:

Thanks to those of you whose orders made the 1976 season so successful. I regret there was not stock enough to fill all orders for IRENE NELSON. There is more stock of it for this year but, even so, it is advisable to order early.

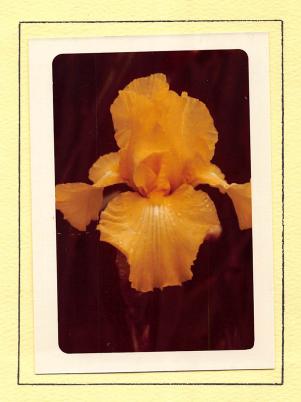
My introductions for this year are two irises I have liked better the longer I have observed them. Particularly beautiful in form and color, I think, and I assure you that branching and vigor were not overlooked when choosing them.

Thank you again and may your iris season be a good one.

Sincerely,

Bennet Ofmes

JEANNE PRICE (1977) - Sdlg. 70-1-2 (Lemon Tree x Shining Light) Chosen for introduction almost from the day it first bloomed, this large, beautifully formed lemonyellow iris more than fills the void in that color class. large, regally formed flowers are medium yellow, on the lemon side of yellow. Standards are domed and closed, lightly ruffled. Wide flaring falls are lightly fluted along their edges and a small white dot adds an accent to the deep lemon beard. Seven to nine buds on well-branched stalks. The plant is clean, it multiplies easily. Named for a keen irisarian, who has done much to promote our favorite flower. bition Certificate in Tulsa, 1977 HC, 1977 35" \$25.00



PREVIOUS INTRODUCTIONS

TALL BEARDED IRISES

CAPE CORAL (1976) - Sdlg. 918-2 (Sib to RHODA ANNE) Large, just slightly ruffled flowers of medium salmon-coral are carried on tall strong well-branched stalks. Standards are domed and tightly closed, the falls flare just the proper amount. Plenty of substance and a different color, smoothly applied. Like its sib, Rhoda Anne, CAPE CORAL is producing some really fine seedlings. 36" \$20.00

ELIZABETH STUART (1971) - (((Old Parchment x Golden Majesty) x Spindrift x Flora Dora))x Pink Fulfillment))) x One Desire X Cloud Crest. Long tea rose like buds are pink blended with heliotrope, edged in cinnamon. The standards are medium bluish-pink, beautifully ruffled, lightly laced and held closed by strong gracefully curved midribs. Wide ruffled falls are lighter in color than the standards, they have a warm wash of cinnamon at the haft. The beard is tangerine becoming silver at the tip. The plant is strong, with fine color. PRESIDENT'S CUP, 1972. JUDGES CHOICE, 1973. AWARD OF MERIT, 1974. \$10.00

HAYRIDE (1971) - Sdlg. 910-1 (Bright Butterfly x Spanish Gift) An eye-catcher, both for its form and its bright, clean color. Tightly closed standards are orange-pink, pinker at the base. The gayly ruffled, almost horizontal, falls are bright medium-yellow with a hint of green, accented with solid deep orange hafts. The wide beard is bright red-orange. An extremely showy flower on a strong-growing plant. Foliage is deep green. 34" HM, 1972 \$ 5.00

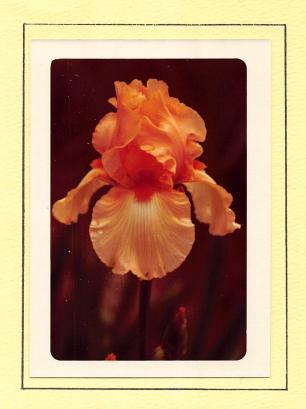
HIGHLAND THISTLE (1973) - Sdlg. 924-1 ((Frances Kent x Mary Randall) x Frost and Flame x Beattie 59-14)) X Fay 62-30. Named for a flower, from which its color was "borrowed", HIGHLAND THISTLE is an iris of unusually beautiful color, form and finish. A pastel pink, influenced lavendar. A lovely different color uniformly applied throughout the flower. The beard is tangerine, just the proper shade of tangerine. The standards are swirled together and are tightly held. The falls are very broad, touching at the hafts, ruffled and flared. They flare half-way to horizontal. Petals are thick and of heavy substance, finished in smooth satiny silk. An elegant flower all the way. Nearly always three flowers open at once on well-branched stalks. Seven to nine buds and a rapid increaser. 34" HC, 1971

IRENE NELSON (1976) Sdlg. 68-41-1 ((((Frances Kent x Mary Randall) x Frost and Flame) x Beattie 59-41)x Blue Dove x (((Frances Kent x Mary Randall) x Frost and Flame) X Blue Dove. Named for my good friend, Mrs. J. Arthur Nelson, who admired it when she saw it as a seedling in the garden during the Convention here in 1972. This is an iris of elegant form and color. Ruffled standards are bold, full violet. The broad, nearly horizontal, beautifully ruffled falls open light violet, quickly fading to near white with a half-inch border of full violet. The beard is carrot-red. Strong well-branched stalks carry seven to nine buds. The plant is vigorous and a good increaser. Of beautiful color and form, it will become the focal point in any planting. A waiting list exists-order early. 34" HC, 1974 \$20.00

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1977 (Continued)

TALL BEARDED IRISES

SUNRISE POINT (1977) 71-38-1 Hayride X 69-24-1 (((Shoop 59-6-2 x Apricot Royal) x (Gay Whisper x Shoop 59-6-2)) x (Pompano Peach x (Bright Magic x Marilyn C))). Named for one of the most colorful areas in Bryce Canyon, Sunrise Point will provide as much bright color as any iris in your garden. Deep salmon-colored standards are ruffled, firmly closed at their tips and held that way by strong, graceful midribs. The flaring falls, more apricot orange than shown in the color photograph, are lightly ruffled and there is a small white area surrounding the very wide, deep orange-red beard. The flowers are of medium size, they are carried on unusually tall stalks. The plant is vigorous, it increases rapidly. 36"



\$25.00

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PREVIOUS INTRODUCTIONS (Continued from Page 2)

OFF SHORE (1974) - 829: 736-1:(((492-1: ((Frances Kent x Mary Randall x Frost and Flame) x sib) x (492-1 x Beattie 59-41: Revel sdlg.)) x 730: (((Donalyn x Shoop 51-12-1: ((Jeb Stuart x Flora Dora) x Spindrift x Flora Dora))) x (Muhlestein 49-11 x Party Dress) x ((Spindrift x Jeb Stuart) x Courtier)) x sib) x 492-1) x Fanfare Orchid X Blue Dove. The light blue of the ocean on a sunny day, and the white of a wave breaking upon the shore. Round, tailored standards are light, medium blue, domed and closed. There is a touch of green in the strong midribs. Wide, round falls are near white with hints of green, made more colorful by the bright carrot-red beard. A refreshing new color pattern, a much improved Blue Dove. Three branches, seven to nine buds. A rapid increaser. 35" \$10.00

ORANGE GLORY (1974) - Sdlg. 67-29-1 (Orange Chariot x Bright Butterfly) Combining the best features of its parents, this intensely colored orange iris became a favorite when it opened its first flowers in the seedling bed. Standards are ruffled, lightly laced and nicely closed in a swirl. Broad falls are gently ruffled and laced and they flare just the proper amount. A rich, smooth self color accentuated by wide deep orange beards. Its very large flowers of excellent substance are carried on strong well-branched stalks. The plant is vigorous. As a parent, ORANGE GLORY contributes flower form and color intensity to its seedlings. 35"

PREVIOUS INTRODUCTIONS (Continued)

TALL BEARDED IRISES (Continued)

RHODA ANNE (1972) - 918-2 (Sdlg. 707-1 (involving Marilyn C, Bright Magic, and a Shoop seedling) x Shoop seedling 64-5 (involving Whole Cloth, One Desire, Hamblen H-35 and Spanish Affair). Named for our lovely daughter-in-law. Ruffled standards are apricot, infused salmon-pink, domed and tightly closed. Wide flaring falls, beautifully fluted along the edges, are warm apricot, flushed salmon at the haft. The beard is glowing orange-red. The plant is strong, it increases rapidly, its form and color are outstanding. Beautiful in clump. 34" HM, 1973

ROMAN CANDLE (1975) Sdlg. 68-38-8 ((Frances Kent x Mary Randall) x One Desirex (Spanish Affair x Shoop 58-18: ((Spanish Whim x ((Jeb Stuart x Flora Dora)) x Spindrift x Flora Dora))) x sib)) X Rhoda Anne. A beautifully formed orangetoned iris as exciting as the Roman candles of the Fourth of July, for which it has been named. The domed, closed standards are full, deep orange with brightness. The flaring lightly ruffled falls are more yellow, creating a reverse bicolor effect. A rich and a very smooth yellow fall, topped with a very wide, deep red-orange beard. ROMAN CANDLE is the brightest and cleanest colored orange-toned iris I know. It is outstanding in the garden and I feel it will be of considerable value to the hybridizer interested in this color. Stalks are strong and well branched and the plant is vigorous. A rapid increaser. You will like this one. 34"

ROMAN SUMMER (1975) - Sdlg. 937-1 (((((((Donalyn x Shoop 51-12) x ((Tell 49-11)x Party Dress) x ((Spindrift x Jeb Stuart)x Courtier))) x sib) x ((Frances Kent x Mary Randall x Frost and Flame)) x (Cloud Crest x (((Limelight x Gold Ruffles) x sib) x Lipstick)))X Shoop 67-27 x (Shoop 59-1 x ((((Tell 49-11 x Party Dress x Spindrift x Jeb Stuart x Courtier)) x (((Spindrift x Jeb Stuart) x Carabella) x Cloud Cap)) x Frost and Flame) x Shoop 57-11)))) - Blue as the summer skies of Rome. The ruffled domed standards of bright sky blue are closed and held by strong graceful midribs. Wide, ruffled, sky blue falls blend into an olivetoned area surrounding a bright red beard. Large flowers of heavy substance are carried on strong well-branched stalks. The plant is vigorous and a rapid increaser. A definite advance in red-bearded blues. 34" \$15.00

SAND AND SEA (1974) - Sdlg. 69-1-1 (Punchline x Cambodia) I like this small tall iris because of its particularly beautiful form and color pattern. Style arms and the ruffled standards are rich, antique gold, the color of wet sand on the beach. Round, ruffled and widely flaring falls are grayed light blue with a neat border of antique gold. The beard is warm bronze. Very floriforous, it is not uncommon to have four or five flowers open at one time on slender graceful stems. A delight up front in the border, SAND AND SEA should also be an arranger's dream. 30" HM, 1975

SEA VENTURE (1972) - 67-64-1 (Avis x Eternal Love) Named for a sailing vessel which played a small part in early American history, this is one of the most unusual and beautiful color pattern I have seen for some time and many who have seen it say it is the most distinctive of the seedlings I have raised. The standards are pale blue but with a large neat dramatic flush of deep marine or ink blue at the base. They are ruffled and swirled together at the top. The wide flaring and ruffled falls are pale blue. Large flowers are carried on well-branched stalks showing three flowers open most of the time. Most impressive in the garden. Sure to be a winner on the show bench. RUNNER-UP FOR PRESIDENT'S CUP, 1972 JUDGES CHOICE, 1974 AWARD OF MERIT, 1975 34"

STANDARD DWARF IRISES

- BLUE MOSS (1967) (Tall blue-purple x Red Amethyst) x sib. Cupped standards are clear, medium blue. Rounded falls are olive, smoothly washed with blue at the haft. The color is most unusual. BLUE MOSS is gaining recognition as it becomes more widely grown. 14" HM, 1969 \$ 1.00
- BLUE POOLS (1973) Sdlg. M202 (Nylon Ruffles x (Nylon Ruffles x Truce) X ((Great Lakes x Mellita sulphurea x Lilli Amoena)) White with blue spots on the falls. Glistening white standards are round, they curve in to touch daintily, but precisely, at the top. The wide, round falls are also glistening white, but with large neatly edged spots of medium light blue just tinged with green and purple near the haft. The neatest blue spot pattern I have seen. The beard is white, tipped yellow. Nice plant balance. A clump is a mass of laughing eyes. 12"

 AWARD OF MERIT, 1976. \$ 2.00
- CHERRY GARDEN (1967) (Captain Gallant x pumila Y9c Randolph) Rich deep red self including the wide bushy beard. Beautiful color, it glows in the sun, the texture is velvet. PRIZE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, VIENNA, 1968. MEDAL FOR SECOND AWARD, FLORENCE, 1969. COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL, 1972. 12" \$ 1.00
- COTTON BLOSSOM (1970) (Pamela Ann x Merry Sunlight) Clean glistening warm white standards are domed and closed. The wide, round falls are warm white, almost horizontal, the beard is white. I like this more each year for its fine performance and beautiful form. We have few really good white standard dwarf irises. This one is a favorite. GOLD MEDAL, VIENNA, 1972. JUDGES CHOICE, 1973. COOKDOUGLAS MEDAL, 1975. \$ 2.00
- GINGERBREAD MAN (1969) (Blueberry Muffins x Gatty M595((Little Shadow x Zwanimir) x (April Morn x Frost Glint)) Near the color of the gingerbread cookies we have all eaten at one time or another. Standards and falls are blended smooth brown, the large beards are deep blue-purple. A startling iris, which has gained immediate acceptance. Choice. 12" SECOND AWARD, FLORENCE, 1971. COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL, 1974.
- KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS (1971) Sdlg. M192-4 (Blueberry Muffins x Blue Moss) I haven't set out to work for green irises, but they do show up with frequency when working with some of the blue-bearded irises, unique among the standard dwarfs. This one is fern green by the color charts (a medium chartreuse). It has a grass green, really green, area around a large blue beard. The standards don't always remain as tightly closed as I would prefer, but they do not fall apart either. This startling combination of colors should please you, if you are looking for a conversation piece, or if you are working for green irises. JUDGES CHOICE, 1973 AWARD OF MERIT, 1975.
- MEADOW MOSS (1969) (Velvet Caper x Gatty M595) Light moss-green with a faint blended wash of brown at the haft. Large amethyst-blue beards. Very nice form, color and habits of growth. MEADOW MOSS, crosses to KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS, produced two unusual blue seedlings and three of the best green irises I have seen. 12" HM, 1970 "MARIA THERESIANTALER" AWARD, VIENNA, 1971 \$ 1.00

STANDARD DWARF IRISES (Continued)

QUEEN'S PAWN (1976) - Sdlg. M212-8 (Sib to Kentucky Bluegrass x Sib to Gingerbread Man) - Perfectly formed flowers of smooth deep beet-root purple are carried on slender stems in proportion to the plant. Flowers are tailored, standards are domed and closed, falls flare. A solid self color but for the deeper toned beard. Foliage is clean, light green and healthy. Extra nice. 12" \$ 4.00

SPRING BELLS (1972) - M197-7 (Pamela Ann x Merry Sunlight) A happy little iris, this sib to COTTON BLOSSOM has as much poise as that variety and form quite similar. Its color is smooth, creamy yellow, with tiny gold stitching around the yellow beard. Standards are domed and tightly closed, the falls flare to suggest the name. Very nice plant balance. 12" HM, 1973 \$3.00

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INTERMEDIATE IRISES

LIGHT CAVALRY (1967) (Captain Gallant x ((Carpathia x Lapham C46)X Red Rockette. Indian Lake self with crimson hafts. Exceptional form, beautiful color and fine proportion. This has been a fine performer wherever grown. Beautiful color-nothing like it. 18" AWARD OF MERIT, 1971 \$ 2.00

PEACHY FACE (1976) - Sdlg. IN70-3 (Peach Glow x Earl Robert's 65R10, pink SDB). A perky little iris of unusual color and pattern that will win you over on first meeting. Round, closed standards are pale peach-white, with a flush of light pink. Nicely flared falls are pale peach-white, covered two-thirds with a deep peach spot and bordered with a neat rim of very light pink. Beard is tangerine-peach. Fine proportion throughout. An easy growing plant. 22" \$ 5.00

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TERMS OF SALE

Guaranteed healthy plants will be shipped after July 15, when rhyzomes are mature. Please include \$1.50 to help cover increasing cost of packing materials and shipping. Check or Money Order with order.