

Welcome to my 2024 Collectors' Bulb Catalogue.

Cleaning and sorting the bulbs is a time consuming job every summer, but also exciting...kind of like a treasure hunt and you never know what you're going to get. Last winter and spring was very dry here and many bulbs which normally thrive didn't do so well, whilst others were better, so as always there have been disappointments, but there have also been some 'yes moments'. I hope you will find some treasures in this year's selection.

This list is for summer dormant bulbs, and they will need planting within a week or two after you receive them (there will be a further list later in the year for summer flowering bulbs such as Crocosmia, Tigridia etc.).



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Please read all of the following ordering information carefully.

- All the bulbs listed are dry and have been pre-packeted into individual paper bags.
- Many of these species and varieties grow naturally small bulbs rather than large ones like daffodils.
- Each listing tells you the size and number of bulbs in the packet, and the price per packet.
- Due to high demand I have had to limit orders to one packet per variety per customer.
- Orders must be sent by email to seaflowers@xtra.co.nz (there is no order form, please just send me a list of the bulbs you would like in the body of the email, not the subject line).
- Make sure you include your delivery address with your order. Postage & packing is \$8.00 urban or \$13.50 rural delivery, or courier charges for cartons as per my website
- You are welcome to include a few alternatives when ordering.
- Once I have received your order and checked availability you will then receive an email confirming your order and the total cost, including postage/freight, and payment details.
- Payment types available will be via internet banking or Paypal (account details will be provided with your order confirmation).
- Orders will be filled according to the date and time received and bulbs will not be sent unless payment has been received.

Whilst all care has been taken to ensure the bulbs are healthy, correctly sized, and true to name, I cannot absolutely guarantee you will get flowers, as other factors such as weather, climate etc can play a big part in flower formation. But having grown these beauties for many, many years, I can say it is wonderful to be able to share them with you and I hope they bring you as much joy as they bring me every year.

Kind regards,

Kate Aston

Please Note: 'Bulbs' are referred to throughout, but can mean corms in some cases.



Albuca viscosa

SOLD OUT

\$12.00 per pkt

Rarely offered species with foliage that frequently spirals, either at ground level or more often higher up. Upright flowerstems 30-40cm high carry many hanging green and yellow flowers. Best in slightly gritty soil in pots. 2 flowering size bulbs per packet.



Babiana ambigua

\$12.00 per pkt

A lower growing species with stiff tufts of pleated leaves and pretty pale mauve flowers of a fairly good size, and with light yellow markings on the lower tepals. Full sun, does well in pots. Flowering height 10-15cm. 3 flowering size bulbs plus 3 smaller ones per packet.



Babiana dregei

SOLD OUT

\$15.00 per pkt

A rarely available larger species with stunning spikes of lilac-purple flowers, with darker markings and each of the lower three tepals splashed with white. The leaves are thick and rigidly upright with a sharp point on the end (presumably to deter grazing animals in the wild!). 1 flowering size bulb plus 2 smaller bulbs per packet.



***Babiana plicata* 'Splish Splash'**

\$12.00 per pkt

Upright spikes of lovely pure white flowers on stems 20-30cm in height. Full sun, strong grower which is very free flowering, and a lovely pure white colour without any lemon or cream. 3 flowering size bulbs per packet.



Babiana vanzylliae

\$12.00 per pkt

A lovely little spring-flowering species bearing a succession of narrow-petalled pale lemon yellow flowers, each petal tinted with darker lemon yellow towards the centre. Height to 10-15cm. 3 smaller grade flowering size bulbs plus a few small bulbs per packet.



***Babiana* 'White King'**

SOLD OUT

\$15.00 per pkt

A favourite of mine, this stunning variety has beautiful spikes of white flowers, variously streaked with blue, darker on the reverse, and with striking deep blue anthers. Prefers full sun and good drainage. 3 flowering size bulbs per packet.



Ferraria crispa

\$12.00 per pkt

An unusual member of the Iris family, with upright sword-shaped leaves and branched flower stems bearing a succession of weird but wonderful brown, yellow and cream flowers with dark speckles. They remind me of a starfish! 1x nice sized flowering bulb and 1 smaller bulb per packet. Best in a spot with shade from the hot afternoon sun.



Freesia 'Burtonii'

SOLD OUT

\$12.00 per pkt

The old fashioned cultivar we all know and love so much. Big creamy white flowers, flushed with gold on the lower petals, and beautifully scented. 3 flowering sized bulbs and a few smaller ones per packet.



Freesia fergusoniae

SOLD OUT

\$15.00 per pkt

One of my favourite scents! Beautiful creamy flowers, the lower petals marked with yellow-orange. Flowers can age to mauve which adds to the beauty of this species as well as the outstanding perfume. Height to 25cm. 3 flowering sized bulbs and 2 smaller ones per packet.



Freesia leichtlinii var. alba

SOLD OUT

\$12.00 per pkt

Another one of those old fashioned but truly fabulous varieties. This one is fertile so unlike Burtonii you will get seedlings popping up, which is perfect if you want to create a carpet of them over time. Stunning cream flowers with fine purple lines and yellow splashes on the lower petals, and the most incredible scent! 5 mixed size bulbs per packet.



Gladiolus alatus

\$15.00 per pkt

A very striking little dwarf species which bears spikes of bright orange, green and yellow flowers in spring. I find this is a great species for pots or shallow tubs where it flowers happily and the small bulbs won't be lost. Full sun. Height 15-20cm. 7 bulbs per packet, most if not all flowering size.



Gladiolus aureus

SOLD OUT

\$20.00 per pkt

An extremely rare species that produces upright spikes of beautiful golden yellow flowers 30-60cm tall, in spring. Critically endangered in its homeland but I have been lucky enough to grow some from seed and am enjoying its presence each year. Enjoys sandy soils with regular watering until after flowering in spring. Summer dormant. 1 flowering size bulb plus 2 smaller ones per packet.



***Gladiolus x colvillei* 'The Bride'**

\$12.00 per pkt

Stunning upright stems of pure white flowers on this species hybrid, each flower delicately infused with lemon at the throat. Ideal for cut flowers in spring – it flowers in November for me. Height around 60-70cm. 3 flowering size bulbs per packet.



***Gladiolus nanus* 'Robinetta'**

\$12.00 per pkt

There is some confusion as to whether this is a *G. nanus* or *G. recurvus* hybrid but whichever, it is a fantastic variety, with bright carmine-red flowers in early summer, each flower lightly marked with white. H to 50cm. 3 flowering size bulbs per packet.



***Gladiolus papilio* 'Ruby'**

SOLD OUT

\$15.00 per pkt

Sumptuous deep ruby-red, slightly hooded flowers with darker shading inside give this sought-after variety a real presence in the garden. A taller one that reaches around 70-80cm in height and will require staking or support by growing it through other plants. 2 flowering size bulbs and 2 smaller ones per packet.



***Gladiolus* 'Rougex'**

\$15.00 per pkt

Another species hybrid that I've had identified by an overseas expert, as it has previously been sold under various names in NZ, including as the species *G. cardinalis*. Large, widely-shaped flowers in vibrant scarlet with a hint of soft orange, and a white streak on the lower 3 tepals, each one surrounded by a splash of hot pink which blends into deep red. Very striking when it flowers in late spring. 5 mixed size bulbs per packet.



***Ixia maculata* 'Elvira'**

SOLD OUT

\$12.00 per pkt

Beautiful tall spikes of starry flowers in pale duck-egg blue. Increases gently without taking over. Full sun, dormant in summer. Mixed lot of 6 bulbs per packet, at least 2 flowering size.



Ixia monadelpha

SOLD OUT

\$15.00 per pkt

I love the flowers on this dwarf spring-flowering species – stunning lilac, mauve and blue all on the one flower and with a metallic sheen and contrasting centre. Can handle more water than others provided the soil is free draining, but enjoys dry summers when it is dormant. 3 flowering size bulbs plus 3 small ones per packet.



Ixia polystachya var. crassifolia

\$12.00 per pkt

Grown from seed sent from a reliable source as this species, the seedlings don't have the dark centre that I would have expected, but are beautiful nonetheless, bearing spikes of lovely soft lilac flowers in spring. 2 flowering plus 5 small bulbs per packet.



Ixia viridiflora

SOLD OUT

\$25.00 per pkt

The highly prized species that I rarely have available! Spikes of iridescent turquoise coloured dark-centred flowers in spring. A true show-off. I find it grows best with a little afternoon shade from the hot sun. 3 mixed flowering sized bulbs per pkt.



Ixia viridiflora 'Silver'

SOLD OUT

\$30.00 per pkt

An exciting find, presumably a hybrid between this species and *Ixia rouxii*, this form is the most gorgeous silver-grey with a hint of blue and a large dark centre edged with burgundy. Equally as spectacular in flower as the turquoise form and a firm favourite of mine. 3 flowering size bulbs per packet.



Moraea aristata

SOLD OUT

\$15.00 per pkt

The beautiful white form of the Peacock Iris. A succession of stunning flowers on narrow upright stems appear in spring, each one with that trademark turquoise blue eye near the base of each petal. Happy in pots or tubs, or free draining garden beds. Flowering height is around 30-40cm. 5 mixed size bulbs per packet, including several flowering size.



Moraea lurida

\$15.00 per pkt

A beautiful creamy lemon form of this showy little species, each flower variously spotted or marked with warm brown tones. A succession of flowers appear in late spring. When they're all open together they remind me of little butterflies. 3 flowering sized bulbs plus 3 small ones per packet.



Moraea villosa violet hybrids

SOLD OUT

\$20.00 per pkt

Peacock Iris. The most stunning flowers in gorgeous shades of violet and blue. These are my favourite hybrids, the ones with various spots and streaking in deep violet, with those luminous peacock eyes at the base of each petal to set them off. Fabulous in pots, tubs or in free draining soil in a special corner of the garden. 3 flowering size bulbs per packet.



***Moraea villosa* 'Zoe'**

SOLD OUT

\$20.00 per pkt

A beautiful New Zealand bred hybrid of this species. Stunning peacock flowers in soft violet blue, streaked and spotted with darker violet and with an iridescent blue eye on each petal. A very striking bulb and one of my favourites for many years. 3 mixed flowering size bulbs per packet.



Muscari aucheri

\$12.00 per pkt

A gorgeous little grape hyacinth species with iridescent blue flowers. The ends of the globe-shaped flowers are berry coloured before the tiny lobes open out to white. 3 flowering size bulbs and 3 smaller ones per packet.



Oxalis adenodes

\$12.00 per pkt

A special species with highly attractive three-lobed grey-green leaves and extra large pristine white flowers with a greenish-yellow throat. (Photo shows it flowering over *Nerine* foliage). 10 mixed size bulbs per packet.



Oxalis palmifrons

\$15.00 per pkt

A fantastic bulb for creating a mound of highly attractive foliage that lasts for months. Each bulb forms a fairly symmetrical circle of individual palm-like leaves radiating out from the centre. Very shy to flower and usually grown just for the foliage, but should you be lucky enough to get flowers they are soft, shimmery lilac. 7 mixed size bulbs per packet.



Oxalis polyphylla* var. *pentaphylla

\$12.00 per pkt

Not often available, this species has upright tufts of dissected, thread-like foliage (each leaf being divided into five leaflets). Stems to 20cm are topped with a beautiful mass of mid to soft pink flowers. Best in pots. 3 flowering sized bulbs per packet.



Oxalis purpurea* *alba

\$15.00 per pkt

I couldn't imagine not having this beauty around and look forward to it flowering every year. A favourite of mine, it sits in a terracotta pot on the patio where I can admire it every day in late winter and early spring. Stunning, pure white chalice-shaped flowers with soft lemon throats. 3 flowering size bulbs per packet.



Oxalis versicolor

\$12.00 per pkt

The beautiful candy cane sorrel, with gorgeous white flowers, the backs edged in red so that even when the flowers are closed they look stunning. This is the form with a fine stripe to the edge of the petals, very elegant! Flowers mid-winter to early spring, attractive cushions of finely divided foliage as well. 5 mixed size bulbs including several flowering size per packet. Best in pots.



***Sparaxis* 'Cynthia'**

SOLD OUT

\$15.00 per pkt

Named in honour of my Nan, Cynthia Aston, who grew masses of Sparaxis and enjoyed the results of crossing different ones. This sterile hybrid was one we inherited from her old home. The flowers are slightly smaller than a standard type, but larger than those previously known as *Synnotia*, with a more open shape than the latter too, although the colouring is similar. Whatever the parentage, it is gorgeous. 3 flowering size bulbs per packet.



***Sparaxis* 'Lemon Cream'**

SOLD OUT

\$12.00 per pkt

This is a lovely, compact hybrid which makes elegant clumps in the garden, producing a succession of large creamy white flowers with pale lemon centres on very sturdy plants. Height to around 30cm. 5 mixed smaller flowering size bulbs per packet.



***Sparaxis* 'Joan's Purple'**

SOLD OUT

\$12.00 per pkt

A much-admired gift from Joan (hence the name) this beauty is an absolute show-stopper. The flowers are a very deep plum colour and are slightly goblet-shaped when they first open, both attributes presumably point to *S. grandiflora* influence in their breeding. Mid height and a strong grower. 3 medium flowering size bulbs per packet.



***Sparaxis* 'Red and Black'**

SOLD OUT

\$12.00 per pkt

This variety makes a real statement in the garden with scarlet-red flowers and satin-black centres. On close inspection there is a dusting of pink in the centre of each petal, where it meets the black, which really adds some punch to the colour scheme. 3 flowering size bulbs per packet.



***Sparaxis* 'Starfire'**

SOLD OUT

\$12.00 per pkt

A stunning large-flowered variety with nice wide petals, in a bright but deep red shade with small yellow centres and a lavender-purple streak down the centre of each petal. 3 flowering size bulbs per pack.