

Alpine Garden Society Ulster Group

Plant of the Month, April 2022

Muscari 'Baby's Breath' - by Cilla Dodd





Muscari 'Baby's Breath' was named by Jenny Robinson who held the national collection of these lovely spring flowers. Jenny brought a few bulbs back from a trip to Cyprus and from these selected this pale blue one, sometimes named as Jenny Robinson.

I love it for its colour and it also has a very delicate perfume. A few years ago on a trip to the Breezand flower show in Holland we were amazed at the many different cultivars on show. Some of these were taller than our average garden varieties and we were surprised to find they were grown for the cut flower market. One of many flowers in the spring, garden muscari is given a bad press because of two specific cultivars, namely *armeniacum* and *neglectum*. These two are thuggish, but if you look beyond these there are many new cultivars out there which deserve a place in the border or in pots. Muscari require good drainage but apart from that they are not too fussy.