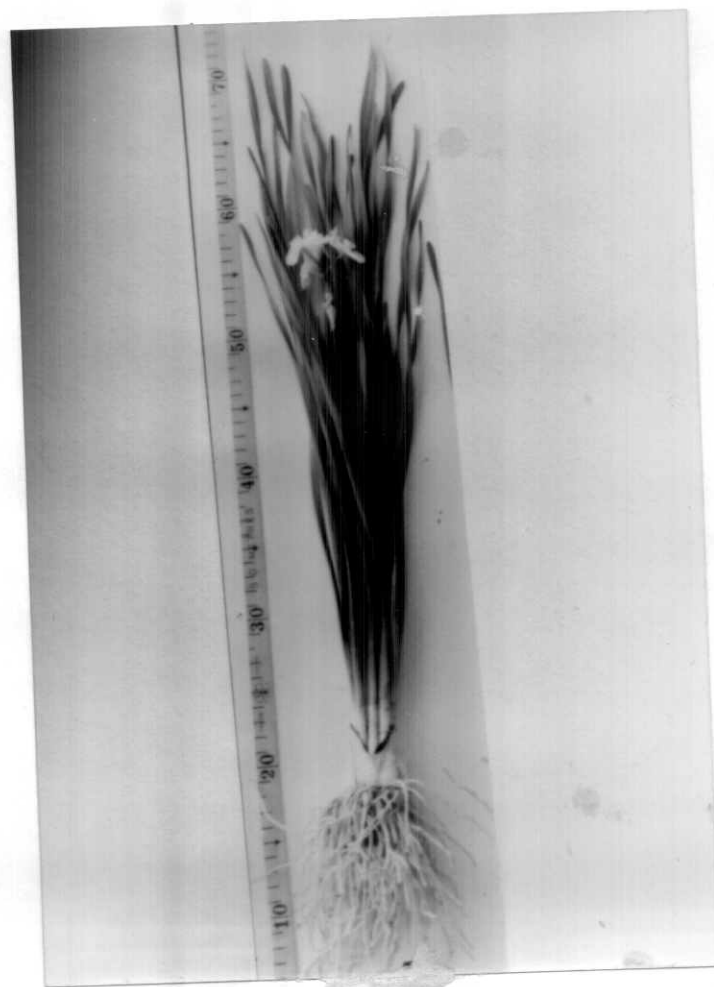


INTRODUCTION

Narcissus tazetta Linn. (Polyanthus narcissus) bulbs plant of the family : Amaryllidaceae belongs to paper white, mostly winter - blooming. The bulb often 2 in. diam., the 4-6 lvs. 1½ ft. or less long, about the length of the flattened peduncle : fls. Several (4-8 or 12), horizontal or declined on slender pedicels, the tube less than 1 in. Long and greenish, the spreading obovate imbricate segms. Pure white, and entire cup - shaped corona lemon - yellow, the species of *Narcissus* are native to central Europe, the Mediterranean region and eastward through Asia to China and Japan (Bailey, 1963).



Flowring *Narcissus tazetta* Linn. (Polyanthus Narcissus)

In Egypt, *Narcissus tazetta*, is the commercially grown outdoors for both cut flower and /or essential oil extraction which used in perfume industry. The flowers contain concrete oil ranged from 0.21 to 0.45 percentage (*Guenther, 1952*).

It usually blooms at December and January. Moreover, it is used in Landscape gardening in a wide range of locations, perhaps more than other bulbs. It may be planted in groups in front of shrubs, as colonies beneath trees, or as individuals in wild gardens, or even in a neutralized meadow.

Recently it is also used as a medicinal plant, since the leaves and bulbs of *Naricssus* contains anti-cancer compounds as mentioned by *Furusawa and Furusawa (1985)*. Also, *Gude et al. (1988)*, found that, ether extract of *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, contains two alkaloids, induced delay hypersensitivity in the animals, the sensitivity achieved, however, was weak. The substances were identified as masonin and homolycorin, which acted as elicitors, but masonin may also be a sensitizer, while homolycorin is a known daffodil constituent.

Serkedzhieva and Najdenova (1991), found that, the isolated substances from the leaves of *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, inhibits to a considerable extend the reproduction of different influenza viruses in tissue cultures.

So, this work was carried out to study the effect of some agricultural factors, namely; growth substances, amino acids and storage temperature which may affect vegetative growth, flowering and chemical components as essenstial oil in flowers or alkaloids in leaves, bulbs and peduncle, and to add one important ornamental to the medicinal plants due to its therapeutical activity.