

Basal rot treatment

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A few prized tetraploid tazettas became infected with basal rot. I invented a treatment that successfully cured them. I am not scientist but a gardener and breeder of Narcissus who likes to try new things and experiment.

In the spring the bulb's basal plates were infected with a pink fungus due to heavy rainfall and lack of drainage. I decided to scrape away all of the rotten and infected flesh with a blade and then I soaked the bulbs in a 3% medical grade hydrogen peroxide solution for 48 hours. I then let the bulbs dry out indoors with ample air circulation until autumn. They were then planted in a fresh soil mixture mostly comprised of pine bark fines and sharp sand. By December all of the treated bulbs emerged healthy with strong roots and a recovered basal plate and appear to have been cured of the basal rot.

The bulbs did not flower this season but if they continue to recover I expect blooms next season.

Has anyone had success with treatment of basal rot in Narcissus?