

ARTICLE HISTORY

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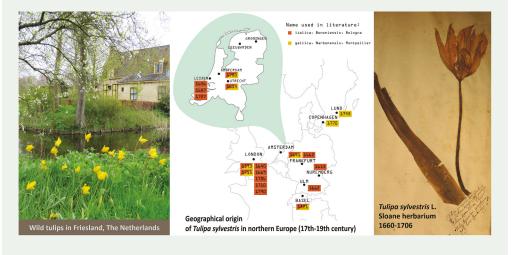
How the wild tulip (Tulipa sylvestris L.) found its way in Northern Europe in the 17th to 19th century: a search through historical gardens and archives

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ABSTRACT

Tulipa sylvestris is a tulip species with yellow fragrant flowers that was introduced to Northern Europe from the Mediterranean region in the 16th century. Two and a half centuries later, the plant was described as naturalized and had found its place in and outside many gardens of Europe. Today, it is the only tulip species that grows wild in Northern Europe. Two main routes have been described for the 16th-century introduction: one from Italy, around Bologna, and one from France, around Montpellier. We explore the further introduction and naturalization history of T. sylvestris in the Netherlands and Northern Europe in the 17th to the 19th century, providing an overview of mentions in herbaria, florilegia, catalogues, seed lists of botanic gardens, and garden magazines published in this period. We show that both the Italian and the French tulip remained in cultivation in Northern Europe, but also that most sources mention the Italian origin. The French tulip, linked to the subspecies T. sylvestris subsp. australis, is prominent in Scandinavian sources and occasionally appears in sources from the Netherlands, England and the German-speaking area. Furthermore, T. sylvestris was apparently exchanged on a regular basis between botanic gardens in Northern Europe around the second half of the 19th century. Finally, we demonstrate that in Friesland, a province in the north of the Netherlands where T. sylvestris still grows abundantly in historical gardens, many of the current locations coincide with historical and cultural sites, and the design of parks in landscape style in the 18th and 19th century.



Introduction

During the Middle Ages, gardens were mostly connected to an abbey, focusing on the study of medicinal plants. Gardens were often square or rectangular, divided into clear sections and sparsely planted, to allow close study of plants, which were organized mostly according to their properties (Leslie 2015). During the 16th century, the first botanic gardens were established, first in Italy (Pisa in 1543, Padova and Florence in 1545 and Bologna in 1568), and soon

also in the Netherlands, first in Leiden (1587), later in Amsterdam (1638) and Utrecht (1639), followed thereafter by others (Cremers 1973; Rakow and Lee 2015). This development coincided with the Dutch Golden Age (approx. 1580–1670) which saw the establishment of the Dutch East India Company and the rise of wealthy Dutch families. The building of many estates was commissioned around this time, often with an adjacent garden, and so cultivated plants became more sought after and, therefore, more available. The

way that gardens were perceived changed, and so did their function and layout: gardens were now a place meant to display the opulence of a family and were therefore enriched by colorful, fragrant plants, fountains, and small building structures (Rakow and Lee 2015). The French classical style was introduced in the Netherlands around 1670 (Hopper 1990), and plants started to be valued primarily for their appearance, smell, colors, and aesthetic value. The possession of exotic and rare plants was a sign of higher social and economic status.

The same changes were reflected in the botanic publications of the time. Medieval herbals focused on describing the individual plant species, their habit and habitat, and especially their medicinal properties and how to process them for application (Arsdall 2012). The scientific interest in plants expanded enormously during the Renaissance, and so did techniques such as wood print making. Beautifully illustrated botanical encyclopedias started to appear in both academic and wealthy circles (Dodoens 1568; Clusius 1601; Besler 1613). Florilegia (from "florilegium", literally meaning a collection of flowers) were highly illustrated books that show aesthetic appreciation of plants (Chen 2023). The term was first used in the Florilegium Novum by the engraver Adrian Collaert published in 1593 (Collaert 1593), which saw also a second edition 19 years later by Theodor de Bry (de Bry 1612). This coincides with the rise of European empires establishing global trading routes around the world, along which showy tropical plants were imported. Gardens gave enjoyment to the elite and showed their status, and this is reflected in contemporary Florilegia (Chen 2023).

Around 1750, the English gardens were changing from the baroque to a landscape style. The growing preference for natural elements had a wider impact, from philosophy to art, and from literature to landscaping (Bassin 1979). Moving towards the "picturesque" garden, important elements that were incorporated in the garden design were based on a view of the surrounding nature. They included a "natural" water element such as a brook or a pond, the creation of small hills, small swinging paths, trees planted in groups, in a more forest-style fashion, which allowed wandering through a semi-natural landscape. The garden was now a place to rest and retreat from the chaos of the city (Hunt and Willis 1988). A growing amount of plants from other parts of the world entered Dutch gardens, orangeries, and greenhouses, which were often heated to allow cultivation of tropical plants (Hind et al. 1988; Johnson 2019).

This period also coincided with the Enlightenment, the time of reason, order, the Scientific Revolution. More scientific work was produced about plants, such as that of Herman Boerhaave (1668-1738) who became head of medicine and botany at the University of Leiden (Offerhaus et al. 2023). Via Boerhaave, Carolus Linnaeus met George Clifford and became superintendent of the gardens at Clifford's manor "De Hartekamp" in Heemstede. During his stay there, Linnaeus published a systematic description of the collection, the Hortus Cliffortianus (Linnaeus 1737; Blunt 2001). This was a stepping stone to his Species Plantarum, where he brought together all plant species in one scientific system (Linnaeus 1753), which profoundly influenced the arrangement of botanic gardens.

The landscape style was still popular in the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century but gradually changed into a "gardenesque" one. For this style to be recognized as art, the layout was changed to a more geometrical one, to avoid any similarity with nature, and plants in these gardens were often cultivated hybrids or tropical ones. This style was mainly used in the direct surroundings of the house, while the rest of the park or venue was still planted in landscape style (Thacker 1985). Many landscape architects of the time also cultivated their own plants to use in parks and gardens, and plant catalogues were supplemented with new species and hybrids (see Oldenburger 2010; Haverman et al. 2016). For instance, Hendrik van Lunteren (1780-1848), a known garden architect from Utrecht, had his studio and nursery at the Flora Hof, where he maintained a collection of trees, and other perennial and annual plants (Waanders 2000). Other examples of families of landscape designers and plant growers were the Zocher family in Haarlem, Copijn in Groenekan and Vroom in Eelde. They designed gardens and provided plants for many of the Dutch historical castles and estates in that period and many of their catalogues are still preserved (Kuijlen et al. 1991; Waanders 2000). Famous in Friesland was Lucas Pieters Roodbaard (1782-1851), who got commissions for many Frisian estates in a period of urban transformation in the area (Radetzky 2021).

The urban transformation in Friesland in the 18th and 19th century saw, among others, the breakdown of "stinzen" (small, reinforced houses that could give shelter to people in times of danger during the Middle Ages) due to the high maintenance costs of these buildings. The remains were used to create hills in naturally landscaped gardens and were richly planted with bulbs and other plants to create a natural look, and these flowered in late winter or early spring, before the trees had set leaves. Known as stinzen plants (stinzenplanten in Dutch), these plants were brought mostly from southern Europe, had often showy flowers and they (Baas 1998). Although not native to the Netherlands, they thrived in the calcium-rich environment created by the debris. This kind of environment, called stinzen environment (stinzenmilieu), is not very common in the Netherlands and was created by human interaction

throughout history. Man-made mounds (terpen), built to make peatlands habitable, Roman levees, and line forts, the extraction and drying up of peat: it all brought about the creation of a calcium layer on top of the existing soil, which is ideal for stinzen plants (Bakker and Boeve 1985; Baas 2004). Even though the Frisian term "stins" is typical for those buildings in Friesland, stinzen plants are also present in Groningen, around many country estates in Utrecht, and in Zeeland (Bakker and Boeve 1985). The same phenomenon is also known in other Northern European countries, for example, Germany, where stinzen plants are known as indicators of former horticulture (Kowarik and Wohlgemuth 2006). Today, stinzen plants announce the arrival of spring in quite a vast area of the Netherlands, starting from the early Galanthus nivalis, Crocus vernus, Eranthis hyemalis, through various species of Narcissus, Anemone, Hyacinthus and Scilla, and among those, the only wild (naturalized) tulip of the Netherlands, also known as the queen of the stinzenplants, Tulipa sylvestris L. (Tonckens et al. 2020). T. sylvestris, commonly called the wild tulip, or "bostulp" in Dutch, is a slender tulip with fragrant yellow flowers. It is less showy than the commercial ornamental tulips, which originate from the complex garden hybrid *T. gesneriana* (Christenhusz et al. 2013).

Tulipa sylvestris L. was introduced in the Netherlands and Northern Europe in the 16th century, around the same time that ornamental tulips came to Europe (Stefanaki et al. 2022). Ornamental tulips reached the Ottoman empire from Central Asia, where they soon became a symbol in arts and religion (Roding and Theunissen 1993; Pavord 2019). They also attracted the attention in Western Europe between the 16th and 17th centuries. Early travelers who brought tulips to Europe were the French botanist and diplomat Pierre Belon (1517-1564) (Belon 1553), and the ambassador of the Habsburg emperor in Istanbul, Ogier Ghiselin de Busbecq (1522-1592) (de Busbecq 1595). The tulip mania, a period in which tulip bulbs were sold in absurd high prices, broke out few decades after Carolus Clusius (1526-1609) became the first prefect of the Leiden botanical garden in 1593, where he planted his collection of tulip bulbs (Dash 2011). Because they were so different from other flowers known to Europe at the time, they soon grew in popularity and became a status symbol (Pavord 2019).

Tulipa sylvestris followed a different route than ornamental tulips: in 1753 Linnaeus described it as "wild", hence the name "sylvestris". It was introduced to Northern Europe from the Mediterranean region, and at the time of its description by Linnaeus the species was probably already naturalized. The introduction history of *T. sylvestris* in the 16th century has been traced in detail by Stefanaki et al. (2022), who also published a map with the distribution of the species in Europe. Following historical botanical texts, illustrations, and herbarium specimens, two main origins came up: Bologna in Northern Italy and Montpellier in Southern France (Stefanaki et al. 2022). The Flemish botanist Matthias de Lobel wrote about collecting bulbs in the Cevennes mountains north of Montpellier between 1565 and 1568 and sending them to Antwerp (De Lobel and Pena 1571). Those tulips were likely the indirect source used for the first scientific description of T. sylvestris, in the book Florum (Dodoens 1568), where a woodcut appears drawn after a watercolor from the Libri Picturati collection named "the small yellow tulip of Montpellier" (De Koning et al. 2008).

The Bologna tulip was first described by de Lobel in 1576 (de Lobel and Pena 1576). The Bolognese botanist Ulisse Aldrovandi seems to have played an important role in its spread to Northern Europe, as he sent bulbs to Clusius and possibly to more of his correspondents from the 1570s onwards. Two specimens dated 1552 and 1553 still survive in his vast herbarium collection (Soldano 2001, 2002). Another (third) introduction route points to the Apennines, as Clusius (1601) wrote that the tulip he received from Aldrovandi was growing abundantly in the Appennines. He first named it Tulipa "Appeninea sive Bononiensis", and later "Tulipa Appeninea" (Stefanaki et al. 2022). Clusius generously distributed bulbs of both the Bologna and Montpellier tulips within his network, accompanied by information about how well they spread thanks to their stolons (Clusius 1577). Clusius also described a small yellow tulip similar to T. Appeninea, Tulipa Hispanica, which had been brought from Spain to Belgium by the royal gardener of the Spanish King Philip II. However, those tulips were harder to cultivate in the Belgian weather and they soon perished (Clusius 1601).

The wild tulips that naturalized throughout Europe are said to belong to the tetraploid *T. sylvestris* subsp. sylvestris, while plants native to the Mediterranean are of the diploid T. sylvestris subsp. australis (Link) Pamp., from which subsp. sylvestris was derived with autotetraploidization (Christenhusz et al. 2013). However, Stefanaki et al. (2022) showed that both subspecies were introduced to Northern Europe, namely the tetraploid subsp. sylvestris from Bologna and the diploid subsp. australis from the Cevennes and questionably the Apennines (Stefanaki et al. 2022). It is not clear, though, whether the Apennine origin was a misunderstanding by Clusius, because he united the Apennine and the Bologna origin ("Tulipa Appeninea sive Bononiensis") but the plants growing in these two areas are taxonomically distinct (subsp. sylvestris in Bologna and subsp. australis in the Apennines) (see Stefanaki et al. 2022).

T. sylvestris (subsp. sylvestris) thrives today in the Netherlands in sunny places in the so-called stinzenmilieu, which is rich in humus and contains some

calcium. It is still strongly connected to country estates, historical gardens, and graveyards. Less often it is found in other environments, such as woodland edges, sea dunes, and road verges (Bakker and Boeve 1985; FLORON 2023). Large populations of *T. sylvestris* are still present in historical gardens, striking examples being those at the Nyenrode castle in the province of Utrecht, and Dekemastate and Martenastate in Friesland. In the Netherlands (Friesland), and also in northern Germany and southern Denmark there are large wild populations growing along road verges (Willem van Riemsdijk, pers. communication). This is facilitated by the mowing regime (few times per year) that is nowadays common practice in many places.

The provenance of these naturalized populations remains unknown, and it is not documented whether they are linked to the original introduction routes from Bologna or Montpellier. No information about the tulips is found in the archives of the castles and estates where these populations grow, nor is their origin mentioned in historical botanical literature. Here, we attempt to elucidate the history of the wild tulip from the 17th to the 19th century, marking the period after the species' first introduction in the 16th century (Stefanaki et al. 2022) until it officially became established in the wild (FLORON 2023). Our focus is primarily on Dutch gardens, but additional sources from Northern European countries were also consulted to gain broader insights into the history of T. sylvestris in Europe.

Materials and methods

We analyzed different historical sources on Tulipa sylvestris in the period between the 1600s and 1800s. We explored growers' and garden catalogues, botanical books, florilegia, herbaria, journal bulletins, seed lists of botanic gardens and gardens plans to trace who was planting and distributing T. sylvestris in this period. We divided this period into two sections marked by the publication of the Species Plantarum (Linnaeus 1753) where the name *T. sylvestris* was used first.

For the period 1600-1753, we considered the pre-Linnean names attributed to *T. sylvestris* (see Stefanaki et al. 2022), namely Narcissus luteus, Lilionarcissus luteus, Lilionarcissus Bononiensis, Lilionarcissus Narbonensis, Tulipa Bononiensis, Tulipa Narbonensis, Tulipa Monspeliensis, Tulipa de Montepeliers, Tulipa van Boloignie, Tulipa Hispanica, Tulipa lutea, Tulipa Appeninea, Tulipa parva lutea, Tulipa minor, Tulipa minor lutea Italica, Tulipa minor lutea Gallica. These terms (and *Tulipa sylvestris* for the period after 1753) were used to carry out a wide screening on the following search engines: Google books, Gelders Archive,

Biodiversity Heritage Library, Archive.org to collect as many references as possible.

The Naturalis Bioportal (https://bioportal.naturalis. nl/en.) was scanned using the terms "Boerhaave", "Royen, A. van", "Royen, D. van", "Royen van", and "Meerburgh", to look for herbarium specimens of 17th-, 18th-, and 19th-century tulips. Other important herbarium collections of that time, namely the Linnaean collections and the Sloane, Clifford and Bergius herbaria were scanned for specimens of T. sylvestris. We also searched the extensive archives of seed lists and garden catalogues of the Utrecht University Botanic Gardens and the University of Padova botanic garden. Additionally, we looked for images of tulips in the digital art collection of the Rijksmuseum. To complete our survey of sources in Europe, we also took references from Northern Europe (predominantly from England, Scandinavia, and the German-speaking area) into account. Growers' catalogues cited in Paradisus Batavus were searched in the archives (Kuijlen et al. 1991).

Maps were created using Adobe Illustrator (2024, v 28.1.1) focusing on (i) pre-Linnaean names of T. sylvestris that contain a clear reference to the species' geographical origin (Italy/Bologna vs. France/ Montpellier), (ii) the current versus historical occurrence of T. sylvestris in Friesland, the Dutch area where the species is most abundant. The current geographical distribution was obtained through FLORON (https://www.verspreidingsatlas.nl/planten.) translated into a simpler version where the kmsquares $(1\times1 \text{ km})$ were pictured as a dotted line.

Results and discussion

The Netherlands before 1753

In 1614, the yellow tulip appeared in a Dutch Florilegium, Hortus Floridus, by Crispijn van de Passe (1614), who was active in Utrecht at that period. Two names are given here, "Tulipa Bononiensis" and "Tulipa de Montpeliers", both accompanying a robust plant with three leaves and one flower (Figure 1; Table 1). van de Passe (1614) drew the plants from living individuals that were growing in the gardens of acquaintances, but no information is present regarding the exact locations.

The earliest 17th-century mention of *T. syvlestris* in the collection of a Dutch botanic garden is by the German physician and botanist Paul Hermann (1646--1695) who became Professor of Botany in Leiden in 1679. In his catalogue of the collections of the Leiden Hortus, Horti Academici Lugudno-Batavi (Hermann 1687) he includes a "Tulipa minor lutea Italica", referring to the Pinax Theatri Botanici by Bauhin (1623). It seems that the tulips were well established in the Leiden Hortus as they were still mentioned 32 years

Table 1. Overview of mentions of Tulipa sylvestris in botanical and horticultural literature in Europe in the 17th -19th century, in chronological order. Seedlist archives are checked until 1880.

					Volume		
				Type of	and		
Title	Author	Date	Place	evidence	page	Original name(s)	Source
Hortus Eystettensis	B. Besler	1613	Nuremberg	Text and	1, 17	Text: Tulipa Apenninea, Bononiensis Image:	https://bibdigital.rjb.csic.es/idurl/1/10908.
Hortus Floridus	C. van de Passe	1614	Arnhem	Text and	28	Text: Tulipa tenuifolfial pumilio Narbonensis.	https://bibdigital.rib.csic.es/idurl/1/13646.
		-	(Utrecht)	image	ì	Narbonensis vel Bononiensis & Apenninea Clusio. Image: Tulipa Bononiensis. Tulipa de	
		,			,	Montpelliers, Tulipa pumilus	
illeauulii Dotaiicuiii	J. Falkilisoli	0		illaye	1342	Satyrion sive Turpa bolloniensis, me Bononian Tulipa. Satyrion sive Tulipa pumilio, The Dwarfe Tulipa	11ths://doi.olg/10.3902/bill.title:132303.
Florilegium renovatum et auctum	J. T. de Bry	1641	Frankfurt	lmage	122	Tulipa lutea odorata, Tulipa Narbonensis [crossed out] Bononiensis praecox	https://books.google.nl/books?id= sSwz5is7G2sC&hl=it&pg=PP7#v=onepa
						πολύανθος alijs Narbonensis	ge&q&f=false.
Phythologia	J. J. Becher	1662	MIN	Text and image	2, 612	Narcissus, Tulipa Bononiensis	https://books.google.nl/books?id=- FlcAAAAAA I&nrintsec=frontcover&hl=
				, ,			it&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v= onepage&gkf=false.
Prealudia Botanica	R. Morison	1669	London	Text	1, 213	Tulipa Apenninea minor lutea Italica vulgò	https://books.google.nl/books?id=
						Bononiensis	S1pOAAAAcAAJ&pg=PAPP7&redir_esc= y#v=onepage&q&f=false.
Horti academici Lugduno-Batavi catalogus	P. Hermann	1687	Leiden	Text	612	Tulipa minor lutea Italica πολύκλον[ος], Tulipa minor lutea Italica	https://bibdigital.rjb.csic.es/idurl/1/13585.
Sloane Herbarium	L. Plukenet	1660-1706	London	Specimen	HS83	Tulipa minor lutea Italica, Lilionarcissus	https://data.nhm.ac.uk/dataset/2fb08750-
					f. 100	Bononiensis, Tulipa Apeninea	054b-4445-a78a-4083a017417d/resource/ 28f40da1-2333-4132-9c18-d6fd8cbbb0f8 /record/114858/1721401511907.
Botanologia, the English Herbal, Or History of Plants	W. Salmon	1710	London	Text and	1008	Text: Second or Yellow Bolonian Saturion or	https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.7127.
				image		Tulip; Third or Dwarf Yellow Satyrion or Tulip. Image: Satyrion Boloniense, Tulip Bolonian; Saturion Dwarf, Tulip Dwarf.	
Plantarum Historiae Universalis Oxoniensis	R. Morison	1715	London,	Text and	1, 400,	Text: Tulipa minor lutea Italica πολύκλονος,	https://bibdigital.rjb.csic.es/idurl/1/12520.
			Oxford	image	450	nobis, Tulipa Appeninea; Tulipa minor lutea Gallica, minor Narbonensis. Image: Tulipa minor lutea Italica, Bononiensis quae pierumque polyclonos; Tulipa minor	
and the second second and second seco	U Books	7771	700	Too't	120	Tulies callica, Narbonensis minor	h****://hihdixital vib cric oc/idual/1/12502
index alter plantalini quae in nono Academico Lugudio- Batavo aluntur	n. boemaave	/7/	בומה	באַן	7, 130	luipa praecox rutea, ruipa praecox rava, Bononiensis Lilio-Narcissus luteus sive Tulipa Boloniensis	ntps://bibaigital.jb.cs/c.es/laun/1/15595.
Flora Suecica	C. Linnaeus	1745	Leiden (Lund)	Text	95	Tulipa minor lutea Gallica, Tulipa Narbonensis, Lilionarcissus Narbonensis montanus, parva Tulipa; Wild-Tulpan	https://bibdigital.rjb.csic.es/idurl/1/11548.
Species Plantarum	C. Linnaeus	1753	Stockholm	Text	1, 305	Tulipa sylvestris; Tulipa minor lutea Italica, Tulipa minor lutea Gallica	https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.37656.
Linnaean herbarium	C. Linnaeus	17?	,	Specimen	INN	Tulipa sylvestris ("Habitat Monspelii, ingue	https://linnean-online.org/3824/#?s=0&cv=
					425.1	Apenninis, Lundini")	0&z=0.0401%2C-0.1589%2C0.708%2C0. 6456.
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Table 1. (Continued).

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	Author	Date	רומרפ	eviderice	hage	Original name(s)	סמורה
Delectus Seminum in Horto Botanico Vratislaviensi collectorum	Anonymous	1838	Breslau	Text	Μ	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum Horti Academici Rheno-Trajectini	C. A. Bergsma	1838	Utrecht	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
C. F. Hagenbach herbarium	C. F. Hagenbach	1838	Weil am	Specimen		Tulipa sylvestris	Herbarium Basel, BAS-000084889
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Index Seminum Horti Academici Rheno-Trajectini	C. A. Bergsma	1839	Utrecht	Text	2	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Cataloque de graines récoltées au Jardin du Roi	Mirbel	1839	Paris	Text	∞	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Flora Frisica	J. J. Bruinsma	1840	Leeuwaarden	Text	.7–99	Tulipa sylvestris	http://www.biolib.de/bruinsma/index.html.
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Hortiis Regins Monagensis seminifer	Anonymous	1841	Minchen	Text		Tulina sylvæstris	Utracht archives
Index Seminim Horti Brixellensis	Approximents	1857	Britzeller	Text	οα	Tulipa sylvastris	I trocht archives
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Semina collecta in Horto Groningano	Anonymous	1852	Groningen	lext	4	lulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum Horti Academici Rheno-Trajectini	C. A. Bergsma	1852	Utrecht	Text	m	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris	J. Decaisne	1853	Paris	Text	7	Tulipa celsiana (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
num Horti Academici Rheno-Trajectini	C. A. Bergsma	1853	Utrecht	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
etropolitanus	C. A. Meyer	1853	St. Petersburg	Text	7	Tulipa biebersteiniana (=T. sylvestris subsp.	Utrecht archives
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Index Seminum Horti Academici Rheno-Trajectini	C. A. Bergsma	1854	Utrecht	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum Horti Bruxellensis	H. Galeotti	1854	Bruxelles	Text	Ξ	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus seminum in horto hotanico Ronnensi	W Sinning	1854	Ronn	Text	~	Tulina turcica (=T sylvastris subsp. sylvastris)	Utracht archives
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Hortus botanicus universitatis regiae Gryphicae mutuae	J. Münter. O. Dotzauer	1855	Greifswald	Text	9	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
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Semina collecta in horto Groningano	Anonymous	1855	Groningen	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Catalogue des graines récoltées au muséum d'histoire naturelle		1855	Paris	Text	3	Tulipa sylvestris, T. celsiana (=T. sylvestris	Utrecht archives
de Paris						subsp. australis)	
Index Seminum Horti Academici Rheno-Trajectini	C. A. Bergsma	1855	Utrecht	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Semina collecta in horto Groningano	Anonymous	1856	Groningen	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index seminum horti Bruxellensis	H. Galeotti	1856	Brussels	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle	J. Decaisne	1856	Paris	Text	c	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
lndex Seminum guae hortus botanicus imperialis	E. Reger. F. Körnieke.	1856	St. Petersburg	Text	15	Tulipa tricolor (≡T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Petropolitanus pro mutua commutatione offert – semina in	L. Rach				!		
regione Wolgensi propre Sarepta lecta							
Index Seminum Horti Bruxelliensis	H. Galeoti	1857	Brussels	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Catalogus Plantarum quae in C. R. Horto Botanico Cracoviensi	I. R. Czerwiakowski, J. Warszewicz	1864	Krakow	Text	32	Tulipa sylvestris	Padova archives
Index Seminim horti academici Pheno-Trajectini	E A W Migigl G year	1861	Hrocht	Toxt	-	Tilling florenting (—T. sylvastris sulbsn	Hracht archives
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Delectus seminum in horto R. Botanico Monacensi collectorum	M. Kolb, C. Naegeli	1865	München	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle	J. Decaisne	1865	Paris	Text	м	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
de Paris	:	;				-	:
Index Seminum in horto botanico regimontano collectorum	R. Caspary, H. L. Hant	1865	Königsberg/ Kaliningrad	lext	4	lulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
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Title	Author	Date	Place	evidence	page	Original name(s)	Source
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris	J. Decaisne	1865	Paris	Text	3	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum horti academici Rheno-Trajectini	F. A. W. Miquel, G. van den Brink	1865	Utrecht	Text	-	Tulipa florentina (=T. sylvestris subsp. sylvestris?)	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in horto botanico regimontano collectorum	R. Caspary, H. L. Hanf	1866	Königsberg/ Kaliningrad	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum in horto botanico Universitatis Vindobonensis collectorum	E. Fenzl, F. Benseler	1866	Vienna	Text	7	Tulipa transtagana (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis), T. tricolor (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris		1867	Paris	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum in Horto Botanico Academico Gissensi collectorum	H. Hoffmann, J. F. Müller	1867	Giessen	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum in horto botanico Universitatis Vindobonensis collectorum	E. Fenzl, F. Benseler	1867	Vienna	Text	7	Tulipa celsiana (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in horto botanico regimontano collectorum	R. Caspary, H. L. Hanf	1867	Königsberg/ Kaliningrad	Text	8	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum in horto botanico Universitatis Vindobonensis collectorum	E. Fenzl, F. Benseler	1867	Vienna	Text	7	Tulipa transtagana (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in horto botanico regimontano collectorum	R. Caspary, H. L. Hanf	1868	Königsberg/ Kaliningrad	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris	Anonymous	1868	Paris	Text	ю	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Auswahl von Sämereien in dem botan. Garten der Universität Würzburg gesammelt und zum Tausch angeboten	J. Sachs, C. Salomon	1869	Würzburg	Text	-	Tulipa celsiana (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis), Tulipa turcica (=Tulipa sylvestris subsp. sylvestris)	Utrecht archives
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle J. Decaisne de Paris	J. Decaisne	1869	Paris	Text	m	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum collectorum quae mutuae commutation offert hortus botanicus Universitatis Dorpatensis	M. Willkom, E. Stelling	1869	Tartu	Text	7	Tulipa celsiana (=Tulipa syvlestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum collectorum quae mutuae commutation offert hortus botanicus Universitatis Dorpatensis	M. Willkom, E. Stelling	1870	Tartu	Text	7	Tulipa celsiana (=Tulipa syvlestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in horto botanico Amstelodamensi	J. C. Groenewgen, C. A. J. A. Oudemans	1871	Amsterdam	Text	4	Tulipa florentina (=T. sylvestris subsp. sylvestris)	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum collectorum quae mutuae commutation offert hortus botanicus Universitatis Dorpatensis	M. Willkom, E. Stelling	1871	Tartu	Text	7	Tulipa celsiana (=Tulipa syvlestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum in horto botanico Universitatis Vindobonensis collectorum	E. Fenzl, F. Benseler	1871	Vienna	Text	æ	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum quae hortus botanicus imperialis Petropolitanus pro mutua commutatione offert – semina in regione Wolgensi inque desertis Caspicis a CI. Beckero lecta	E. Reger, C. J. Maximowicz, E. Ender, H. Höltzer	1871	St. Petersburg	Text	43	Tulipa tricolor (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Desiderata de l'École de Botanique de Rouen	E. Blanche	1872	Rouen	Text	-	Tulipa celsiana (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum in horto botanico Universitatis Vindobonensis collectorum	W. Hofmeister, W. Hochstetter	1872	Vienna	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Auswahl von Sämereien aus dem botanischen Garten der k. Universität Erlangen	M. Reess, F. Francke	1872	Erlangen	Text	8	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
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					Volume		
Title	Author	Date	Place	lype or evidence	and page	Original name(s)	Source
Catalogue des espéces offertes en échange par l'École de Rouen	E. Blanche	1872	Rouen	Text	∞	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus seminum que hortus botanicus imperialis Petropolitanus	E. Ender, H. Höltzer	1872	St. Petersburg	Text	∞	Tulipa sylvestris var. minor (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris	J. Decaisne	1872	Paris	Text	m	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Samen-Verzeichniss des botanischen Gartens der Universität Bonn	J. Hanstein, J. Bouché	1872–3	Bonn	Text	7	Tulipa florentina (=T. sylvestris subsp. sylvestris)	Utrecht archives
Hortus botanicus universitatis regiae Gryphicae mutuae communicationi offert	J. Münter, O. Dotzauer	1873	Greifswald	Text	∞	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus seminum in Horto botanico Carlsruhensi Index Seminum in horto botanico regimontano collectorum	C. Mayer, M. Seubert R. Caspary, C. Einicke	1873 1873	Karlsruhe Königsberg/	Text Text	κ4	Tulipa celsiana (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis) Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives Utrecht archives
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Parie	J. Decaisne	1873	Kaliningrad Paris	Text	m	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Serials In Horto botanico Universitatis Caesareae Mosminum in Horto botanico Universitatis Caesareae	M. Wobst	1874	Moscow	Text	Ξ	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Jardin paranique de Rouen: Supplément au catalogue de 1873, gaines récoltées en 1874	E. Blanche	1874	Rouen	Text	—	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in horto botanico regimontano collectorum	R. Caspary, C. Einicke	1874	Königsberg/ Kaliningrad	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Auswahl von Sämereien aus dem botanischen Garten der k. Universität Frlangen	M. Reess, F. Francke	1874	Erlangen	Text	2	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Catalogue de graines récoltées au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris	J. Decaisne	1874	Paris	Text	ю	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in Horto botanico Universitatis Caesareae Mosquensis	I. Tchistiakoff, M. Wobst	1874	Moscow	Text	12	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Hortus botanicus universitatis regiae Gryphicae mutuae communicationi offert	J. Münter, O. Dotzauer	1875	Greifswald	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Samen-Verzeichniss des Botanischen Gartens zu Halle	G. Kraus, M. Paul	1875	Halle	Text	2	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in horto botanico regimontano collectorum	R. Caspary, C. Einicke	1875	Königsberg/ Kaliningrad	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus seminum que hortus botanicus imperialis Petropolitanus	E. Ender, H. Höltzer	1875	St. Petersburg	Text	6	Tulipa sylvestris var. minor (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
Catalogue des gaines récoltées au jardin botanique de Rouen Index Seminum in Horto academico Hauniensi collectorum	E. Blanche T. Friedrichsen, F. Didrichsen	1875 1876	Rouen Copenhagen	Text Text	- 9	Tulipa sylvestris Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum in Horto Botanico Academico Gissensi collectorum	H. Hoffmann, J. F. Müller	1876	Giessen	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in horto botanico regimontano collectorum	R. Caspary, C. Einicke	1876	Königsberg/ Kaliningrad	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Auswahl von Früchten und Saamen, gesammelt 1875 in dem botanischen Garten der Universität zu Leipzig	Schenk, F. Funck	1876	Leipzig	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Catalogue des gaines récoltées au jardin botanique de Rouen Delectus seminum quae hortus botanicus imperialis Petropolitanus	E. Blanche E. Ender, H. Höltzer	1876 1876	Rouen St. Petersburg	Text Text	- 8	Tulipa sylvestris Tulipa sylvestris var. minor (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives Utrecht archives
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Title	Author	Date	Place	evidence	page	Original name(s)	Source
Delectus Seminum in horto botanico Universitatis Vindobonansis collectorium	F. Benseler, E. Fenzl	1876	Vienna	Text	2	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in Horto academico Hauniensi collectorum	T. Friedrichsen, F. Didrichsen	1877	Copenhagen	Text	9	Tulipa celsiana (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis). Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus Seminum in Horto Botanico Academico Gissensi	H. Hoffmann,	1877	Giessen	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Collectional des asimes récoltées su isrdin hotsnique de Douen	F. Blacks	1977	Dollog	ţ,	-	Tuling cylvacteric	11,000
Catalogue des gaines recottees au jardin botainque de nodein Delectus seminum quae hortus hotanicus imperialis	E Ender H Höltzer	1877	St. Petershird	Text	- 62	Tulina hiebersteiniana (=T. sylvestris subsp.	Utrecht archives
Petropolitanus: Semina in Rossia australi, in Caucaso, in					ì	australis), Tulipa tricolor (=T. sylvestris subsp.	
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Delectus Seminum in horto botanico Universitatis Vindobonensis collectorum	E. Fenzl, F. Benseler	18//	Vienna	lext	n	lulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Auswahl von Sämereien Knollen & Zwiebeln in dem	J. Sachs, C. Salomon	1877	Würzburg	Text	2	Tulipa turcica (=Tulipa sylvestris subsp.	Utrecht archives
botanischen Garten der Universität Würzburg gesammelt						sylvestris)	
Hortus hotanicus universitatis regiae Gryphicae mutuae	I. Münter, O. Dotzauer	1878	Greifswald	Text	9	Tulina sylvastris	Utrecht archives
communicationi offert)			,		
Cataloque des graines récoltées au jardin botanique de Nancy	G. Le Monnier	1878	Nancy	Text	1	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus seminum quae hortus botánicus imperialis	E. Ender, H. Höltzer	1878	St. Petersburg	Text	30	Tulipa biebersteiniana (=T. sylvestris subsp.	Utrecht archives
Petropolitanus pro mutua commutatione offert: Semina in						australis), Tulipa tricolor (=T. sylvestris subsp.	
Rossia australi, in Caucaso, in Sibiria collecta						australis)	
Auswahl von Sämereien in dem botanischen Garten der	J. von Sachs,	1878	Würzburg	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Universität Würzburg gesammelt und zum Tausch	C. Salomon						
angeboten							
Selectus Seminum in Horto botanico Turicensi	O. Heer, E. Ortgies	1878	Zürich	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in Horto academico Hauniensi collectorum	T. Friedrichsen, F. Didrichsen	1879	Copenhagen	Text	9	Tulipa celsiana (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis), Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Auswahl von Sämereien aus dem Botanischen Garten zu	H. T. Gevler,	1879	Frankfurt am	Text	_	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Frankfurt am Main	G. Perlenfein		Main			` -	
Catalogue des gaines récoltées au jardin botanique de Rouen	E. Blanche	1879	Rouen	Text	_	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Delectus seminum quae hortus botanicus imperialis	E. Regel,	1879	St. Petersburg	Text	37	Tulipa sylvestris var. tricolor (=T. sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Petropolitanus pro mutua commutatione offert: Semina in Rossia australi, in Caucaso, in Sibiria collecta	C. J. Maximowicz, A. F. Batalin,					subsp. australis)	
	C. Winkler, E. Ender, H. Höltzer						
Delectus Seminum et Plantarum, quae Hortus botanicus Universitatis Rheno-Traiectinae pro mutua commutatione	N. W. P. Rauwenhoff, G. van den Brink	1879	Utrecht	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
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Auswahl von Samereien in dem botanischen Garten der Universität Würzburg gesammelt und zum Tausch	J. von Sachs, C. Salomon	1879	Würzburg	lext	-	lulipa sylvestris, 1. sylvestris var. tricolor (=T. sylvestris subsp. australis)	Utrecht archives
angeboten							
Selectus Seminum in Horto botanico Turicensi	O. Heer, E. Ortgies	1879	Zürich	Lext	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Index Seminum in horto botanico regimontano collectorum	R. Caspary, C. Einicke	1880	Königsberg/	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
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Title	Author	Date	Place	evidence	page	Original name(s)	Source
Delectus Seminum et Plantarum, quae Hortus Botanicus	N. W. P. Rauwenhoff,	1880	Utrecht	Text	٣	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Universitatis Rheno-Traiectinae pro mutua commutatione offert	G. van den Brink						
Auswahl von Sämereien aus dem Botanischen Garten zu	H. T. Geyler,	1880	Frankfurt am	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Frankfurt am Main	G. Perlenfein		Main				
Delectus Seminum in Horto Botanico Academico Gissensi	H. Hoffmann,	1880	Giessen	Text	4	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
collectorum	J. F. Müller						
Auswahl von Sämereien in dem botan. Garten der Universität J. von Sachs,	J. von Sachs,	1880	Würzburg	Text	7	Tulipa sylvestris var. tricolor (=T. sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Würzburg gesammelt und zum Tausch angeboten	C. Salomon					subsp. australis)	
Sämereien zum Tausch aus dem Königlichen botanische Garten H. R. Goeppert, B. Stein,	H. R. Goeppert, B. Stein,	1880	Wroclaw	Text	_	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
der Universität Breslau	C. Lakowitz						
Catalogue des grains du jardin botanique de Lyon	T. Denis, G. Dutailly	1880	Lyon	Text	23	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Catalogue des graines récoltées au jardin botanique de Nancy G. Le Monnier	G. Le Monnier	1880	Nancy	Text	12	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Graines récoltées au Jardin botanique de la ville d'Angers	M. Jolibois, E. Lieutaud	1880	Angers	Text	18	Tulipa sylvestris	Utrecht archives
Taschenbuch der Flora von Basel und der angrenzenden	F. Schneider	1880	Basel	Text	276	Tulipa sylvestris	Herbarium Basel
Gebiete des Jura, des Schwarzwaldes und der Vogesen: zum							
Gebrauche auf Botanischen Excursionen							



Figure 1. Tulipa sylvestris in the Hortus floridus by Crispijn van de Passe (1614). Image credit: digital art collections Rijksmuseum, public domain.

later in the garden catalogue of Boerhaave (1727), but it can also be that they were reintroduced after Hermann. Boerhaave used several other names, Tulipa praecox lutea, Lilio-narcissus luteus, Tulipa Bononiensis. There are no images in the garden catalogue, but these probably refer to the yellow Bologna tulip.

The Netherlands after 1753

After the publication of the Species Plantarum (Linnaeus 1753) the name Tulipa sylvestris became widely accepted and is used in most of the literature. The wild tulip appears under the same name in the Encyclopedia of the natural world according to the system of Linnaeus (Houttuyn 1780). The author noted that Linnaeus brought the French and the Italian tulip under one name. Houttuyn also mentioned, referring to Linnaeus that the species escaped the gardens and is now growing scattered in the wild in Central and Northern Europe.

Flora Batava was the first comprehensive attempt to document the wild flora of the Netherlands. It has been described as more than just a Dutch flora, but rather a long-lasting loving tribute to it (Van Gelder

and Peters 2023), with 28 volumes published between 1800 and 1934. In the edition of 1828, we find a beautiful illustration of T. sylvestris (Figure 2). Flora Batava contains one of the earliest traceable records of the species described as naturalized in the Netherlands: "het [...] blijkt, dat zij hier als waarlijk inlandsch moet gerekend worden heft men haar ook reeds als zoodanig in Engeland erkend" ("it [...] seems that we should also count it as native as people have also recognized in England") (Kops and van Hall 1828, p. 236). The species was for the first time reported to be growing wild around 1770 at Hagestein, a former castle in the vicinity of Vianen, Utrecht, in several localities in Friesland, and in Hoorn (Noord-Holland), growing at the side of the road (Kops and van Hall 1828).

The species does not appear in the first edition of Flora Frisica (Meese 1760), possibly because it was not yet seen as a wild or naturalized plant, or maybe it was overlooked. It is included in the edition of 1840, with more locations in Friesland: "in Ferwerderadeel, and in Weidum, in the Prinsentuin in Leeuwarden, and at Huisum or Sixma State, in Stiens, in Jelsum and abundant in Kornjum under the trees" (Bruinsma 1840, p. 67) (Figure 3).

The plant had also reached the growers' circles as it started to appear in gardens, such as the nursery Tulpenburg in Utrecht, owned by Zacharias Brakel (1794). Even if the title "of hardy foreign plants" suggested non-native plants, the tulip was mentioned as



Figure 2. Illustration of Tulipa sylvestris published in Flora Batava (1828), Vol. 5, plate 377. Image credit: The Hague, KB National Library of the Netherlands, KW T 423.



Figure 3. Among the oldest still extant wild populations of Tulipa sylvestris in the Netherlands are those in Martenastate, Cornjum (a) and Dekemastate, Jelsum (b) in Friesland, mentioned in Flora Frisica from 1840.

wild, which indicated that it was already considered naturalized by some people in the period before the publication of the Flora Batava. The species is named sijlvestris and appears yet with another spelling, silevestris, in the catalogue of Hendrik van Lunteren, which was possibly compiled in 1819 (van Lunteren 1819?; Woerdeman 2009). Van Lunteren had established a nursery known as the "Flora Hof" at the Servetstraat in Utrecht in 1803, which remained a family business until 1934. He and his son Samuel van Lunteren (1813--1877) were successful plant growers and landscape architects, as it is shown by their broad oeuvre (Waanders 2000). Given it bears his signature, we can assume that this catalogue was published before the death of van Lunteren in 1848. Unfortunately, we could not find any catalogue of the nursery Wybrens & Co in Journe, Friesland. Van der Ploeg (1988) however mentions a relic population of *T. sylvestris* growing in the place where the nursery used to be.

The German-speaking area

Approximately 35 engraved plates in the Florilegium renovatum et auctum by the famous engravers Dirk and son Johann Theodor de Bry, active in Frankfurt around 1600, depict bulbous and exotic plants, one of which contains a three-flowered specimen of T. sylvestris named "Tulipa lutea odorata Bononiensis praecox πολύανθος [polýanthos = many-flowered] alijs Narbonensis" (de Bry 1612). It seems that the plant was growing at the Nuremberg botanical garden, as it appears in the Hortus Eystettensis (Besler 1613). This beautiful publication, containing more than 1000 engravings of the plants found in the garden of Eichstätt, was commissioned by the prince-bishop of Eichstätt in Bavaria to the pharmacist and botanist Basilius Besler. Among the engravings is a threeflowered specimen of T. sylvestris named "Lilio-Narcissus Bononiensis" (Besler 1613).

The species also appears under the name "Tulipa Bononienis" in Phytologia (Becher 1662), a publication on medicinal plants, with a description of its woundhealing properties. It is again depicted as three-flowered.

Even though also the Montpellier tulip had reached Germany in the 16th century (Clusius 1577; Camerarius 1588; Stefanaki et al. 2022), it is mostly the Bologna tulip that appears in German literature in the period 1600s-1800s.

In 1821, the species was reported to grow wild in and near Basel (Hagenbach 1821). Three specimens collected around the same period in the vicinity of the city survive in Hagenbach's herbarium from 1835 (Figure 4). Hagenbach linked the species to its French origin, referring to Bauhin's Tulipa lutea minor Gallica. The species became naturalized in the surroundings of the city probably after the death of Caspar Bauhin (1560-1624), as he did not mention it in his flora of Basel (Bauhin 1622; Stöcklin and de Vos 2022).

England

The first mention of Tulipa sylvestris appears in The Herball, published by John Gerard (1597). A few decades later the plant made its way in both publications of Robert Morrison (1620-1683). The Prealudia Botanicorum points to the Italian origin as it only includes the name "Tulipa Appeninea Clus. minor lutea Italica, B. pin. vulgò Bononiensis" (Morrison 1669), but in the Plantarum Historiae Universalis Oxoniensis we find two images, one as "Tulipa minor lutea Gallica, Narbonensis minor Dod.", depicting a single-flowered slender exemplar, and a robust three-flowered one as "Tulipa minor lutea Italica, C.B.P. Bononiensis" (Morrison 1715). Morrison referred to Clusius and Aldrovandi for the *Italica* tulip, describing that it was more robust and grew more easily than others. He connected the Gallica tulip to Dodoens and De Lobel, mentioning that the latter had sent bulbs to Belgium.



Figure 4. Specimen of Tulipa sylvestris collected by Christian Münch in the vicinity of Weil am Rhein, probably before 1821, in the herbarium of C. F. Hagenbach, Basel Herbaria. Image by Aurélie Grall, published with permission.

A specimen of T. sylvestris named "Tulipa lutea Bononiensis" dated 1660-1706 (Figure 5) is present in the Sloane herbarium (Scott et al. 2025) as part of the collection of Leonard Plukenet, gardener to Queen Mary II (1662-1694). Plukenet (1642-1706) most likely collected this specimen somewhere between the 1670s and 1690s while working on his Phytographia (1691) (Brad Scott, pers. communication). The stolons and roots of the species attracted the attention of Willem Salmon, who included it in his Botanologia as "Satyrion Boloniense or Tulip Bolonian" (Salmon and van der Gucht 1710). The presence of a plant carrying the epithet sylvestris in a catalogue of William Malcolm (1778) implied that it was known and widely cultivated at the time.

The plant is described for the first time as naturalized in England by Sowerby and Smith (1790). In the description of the plate included in their English Botany, they wrote: "No writer on British plants has hitherto noticed the wild tulip; but we are encouraged to give it as a native, or at least a naturalized species by the observation of W. Mathew who favoured us with this specimen from an old chalk pit near Bury, as well as by the opinion of the late very accurate and learned Mr. Rose of Norwich, and of Dr. Mr. Smith who have



Figure 5. Specimen of Tulipa sylvestris, dated ca. 1660–1706, in the Sloane herbarium as part of Leonard Plukenet's collection, HS83 f. 100, Natural History Museum London. Image by Brad Scott, published with permission.

both found it in an old chalk pit near the city" (Sowerby and Smith 1790, p. 236). A specimen preserved in the herbarium of James Edward Smith (1759-1828) was collected in 1793 near Bary, probably in the same location. However, the plants probably vanished from this location in the 19th century (Henslow and Skepper 1860; Mark Spencer, pers. communication). In the Flora of Suffolk the species is reported to grow in Rougham (Henslow and Skepper 1860). The plant grew around London, in Lord Spencer's Park, as it is noticed by both Curtis (1834) in his British Entomology and in the Flora metropolitana by Daniel Cooper (1836). A population at Harefield in NW London is known to still be present since that period, namely for at least 150 years (Marks Spencer, pers. communication). The species also made it to the growers' and garden enthusiasts' circles, as it appears in An encyclopedia of gardening, where it is described as an ideal plant for the English landscape garden (Loudon 1826).

Scandinavia

Linnaeus (1745) is the first to describe the naturalization of the wild tulip in Scandinavia in his Flora Suecica. He describes it as growing abundantly around Lund, stating that it was probably brought there by the bees and subsequently managed to settle. He mentioned only the epithets Gallica and Narbonensis, pointing to the French origin. The plant is also present in the third volume of *Flora Danica* published in 1770 in Copenhagen (Oeder 1770). It is described as slender, with one flower. The epithet "minor lutea" is also added, and it is stated that the plant is found around Copenhagen castles, on walls, and in some gardens, and that it can be counted as native (Oeder 1770). The Bergius herbarium, dating from around the same time (1780) and originating from the collections of Peter Jonas Bergius (1730-1790), professor in Stockholm, contains three specimens of T. sylvestris, all of them quite slender and single-flowered.

Scandinavian references point to a French origin in either the epithet used or in the way the plant is depicted. This is unusual, as the Bolognese origin is usually mentioned in literature from other countries. In the Species Plantarum (Linnaeus 1753) both the Bologna and the Montpellier tulip are grouped together under the name of T. sylvestris, but it is questionable whether the Bologna tulip was growing in Sweden, as Linnaeus was also active in Leiden, the Netherlands, and had done work for his publication there.

A summary of all the sources used can be found in Table 1, ordered chronologically. Historical sources mentioning Pre-Linnaean names that are indicative of the place of origin (Italica, Bononiensis, Bologna vs. Gallica, Monspelliensis, Montpellier) are shown with date and location in Figure 6.

Link between historical occurrence and present-day distribution in the Netherlands

Most historical references of T. sylvestris in the Netherlands describe locations in the province of Friesland. When we overlay them to the present day distribution map of the species (FLORON 2023) we

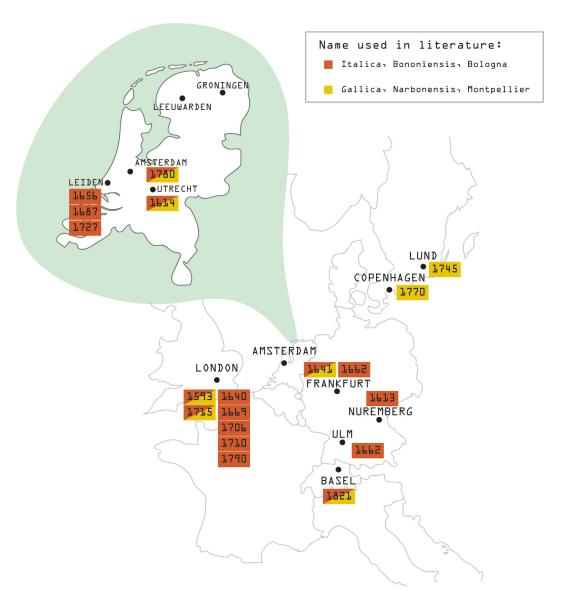


Figure 6. Map of historical locations from sources mentioning Tulipa italica (Bononiensis, Bologna) in red and Tulipa Gallica (Narbonensis, Montpellier) in yellow. Sources mentioning double origin have both colors. The dates correspond to the nearest cities on the map. The dominance of the red color shows the persistence through time of the Italian/Bologna origin for Tulipa sylvestris.

notice a clear coincidence between historical mentions and current occurrence (Figure 7). The distribution pattern coincides with the stinzen milieu which is still present in historical gardens and with the soil history that led to the formation of this environment. The wild tulip is known for its preference for vegetative over sexual reproduction. It is also characterized by poor flowering in shadier areas: even in optimal conditions, at best a quarter of the total population flowers (FLORON 2023). If pollinated, it sets seeds poorly, maybe due to its ploidy (Te Beest et al. 2012). Its strong vegetative reproduction was described already by Clusius (1577), who advised to plant those bulbs in a separate section or to use rooftiles as a separation, as they spread quite vigorously through their stolons. It therefore seems plausible that populations of T. sylvestris have managed to establish themselves and thrive locally around the locations where they were planted, but not much further than that, as that usually requires dispersal by seed.

Similar findings are reported from Northwestern Germany, where the current distribution of T. sylvestris aligns with the historical and cultural patterns of introductions in gardens (Kowarik and Wohlgemuth 2006). Plausible mechanisms mentioned for the spread of the species there include the disposal of vegetative parts with waste, hydrochory (i.e. transport of bulbs through water), hemerochory (transport by sticking to an object such as agriculture machines) or spread through the trade of grapevine plants and

plowing of vineyards. Those mechanisms of dispersal seem plausible for the Netherlands as well: tulips could spread from re-used soil by growers, or during renovations of stinzen, estates and castles. Hydrochory may locally also explain the species' spread, e.g. in the province of Zeeland, where current locations seem to follow the waterline (Stikvoort et al. 2017). In Utrecht, T. sylvestris is mostly located around the Vecht river, which might also suggest hydrochory. However, that can also be linked to the soil geology and history, and to the establishment of castles and estates in the area around 1800, with gardens in landscape style. Another hypothesis for some plants found in Groenlo suggested that these might have been accidentally brought through crop import from southern Europe (Gleichman 1972).

Historical gardens in the Netherlands unfortunately do not have recorded information on the origin of their tulips. In an attempt to trace the history of these gardens, the names of certain landscape architects and gardeners appeared: some sources attribute the laying out of the park of Nyenrode castle in Utrecht to Samuel van Lunteren in 1861, but this is debated (Waanders 2000). For the Dekemastate in Friesland, the only information available about their garden in the period 1600s-1800s was that J.G. Selmer was responsible for the maintenance at the beginning of 1700, but at that time *T. sylvestris* was not yet widely distributed (Kuiper and Cuperus 2020). We do find the yellow tulip in many gardens realized by Lucas Pieters Roodbaard (1782-1851), such as the

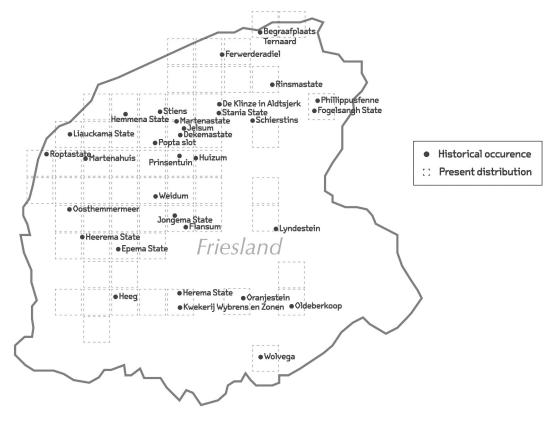


Figure 7. Historical locations of Tulipa sylvestris in Friesland, the Netherlands (Kops and van Hall 1828; Bruinsma 1840; van der Ploeg 1988; Buith et al. 2020) overlayed with the species' present distribution (FLORON, 2023).

Prinsentuin, Martenatuin, Martenastate, Dekemastate, Poptaslot and Epemastate (Buith et al. 2020). He obtained plants from the growers Wybrens & Co, and even though no catalogue of this firm is available, a population of wild tulips was present at the former location of their nursery (der Ploeg Dte 1988). Unfortunately, no tulip is mentioned in a series of surviving letters between Wybrens and Roodbaard to support this hypothesis (van der Spoel-Walvius Mr 2012).

Conclusion

The introduction history of *T. sylvestris* in Europe after 1600 shows that the species' present occurrence is linked to previous human activity, especially in the context of cultural and historical landscapes, as it is often the case with stinzen plants. Based on historical evidence presented here, it becomes evident that T. sylvestris remained in cultivation in the Netherlands and Northern Europe throughout the 17th to the 19th century. The species started being reported as wild from 1745 onwards in Sweden, ca. 1777 in the Netherlands and 1790 in England.

Based on our findings, out of the two original places of introduction in the 16th century, Italy (Bologna) and France (Montpellier), the provenance that comes up the most is the Italian (Bologna) one, especially in the Netherlands, Germany, and England. The Apennines origin, a third one suggested by Clusius, is hardly mentioned.

The success of the Bologna tulip, which belongs to autotetraploid subsp. sylvestris, vs. the Montpellier tulip, which in turn belongs to the diploid subsp. australis, can be assigned to the more robust habit of subsp. sylvestris, related to its tetraploid nature: larger leaves, usually two (sometimes three) flowers instead of one, and a bigger habit. Polyploids are also known to have a larger spread and a better colonization ability than their diploid counterparts. Besides the change in morphology, polyploids also have better stress tolerance and increased vegetative over sexual reproduction (Te Beest et al. 2012). These factors might have made the Bologna tulip more resilient and persistent throughout the centuries and made its spread easier. specimens of French Interestingly, slender (Montpellier) origin predominate in Scandinavian literature. The persistence of the French tulip in Sweden, despite the harsher climate, might be connected to the trade between the two countries since 1500: by the 18th century, the French language and culture had become such a big influence in Sweden that royals often received a French education (Pourchasse 2006).

Around the mid-19th century, T. sylvestris appeared in the seed lists of many botanic gardens, we can therefore assume that the species was potentially widely exchanged within Europe during that period. It is interesting that subsp. australis also appears in these seed lists (under synonyms, such as T. celsiana and T. tricolor). This shows that, besides subsp. sylvestris, also subsp. australis was cultivated in botanic gardens and exchanged among them. Still, it is not clear if and to what extent the exchanged plants (subsp. sylvestris or subsp. australis) escaped from botanic gardens and contributed to the naturalization of the species in the wild.

Although our search for historical sources was thorough, it was inevitably limited by the availability of sources online. Although the digitization of historical archives has been extensive in recent years, archives of historical garden catalogues and seed lists still remain scarce online. We therefore emphasize the importance of garden archives for historical research and the need to make more of these archives available online, as these are indispensable sources for understanding past movements of plants and their history of introduction.

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No potential conflict of interest was reported by the author(s).

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Author contributions

AS and TvA designed the research; GC, AS and AO carried out research; GC wrote the manuscript; All authors read and commented on the manuscript.

Data availability statement

All research data associated with this paper are included in the paper.

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