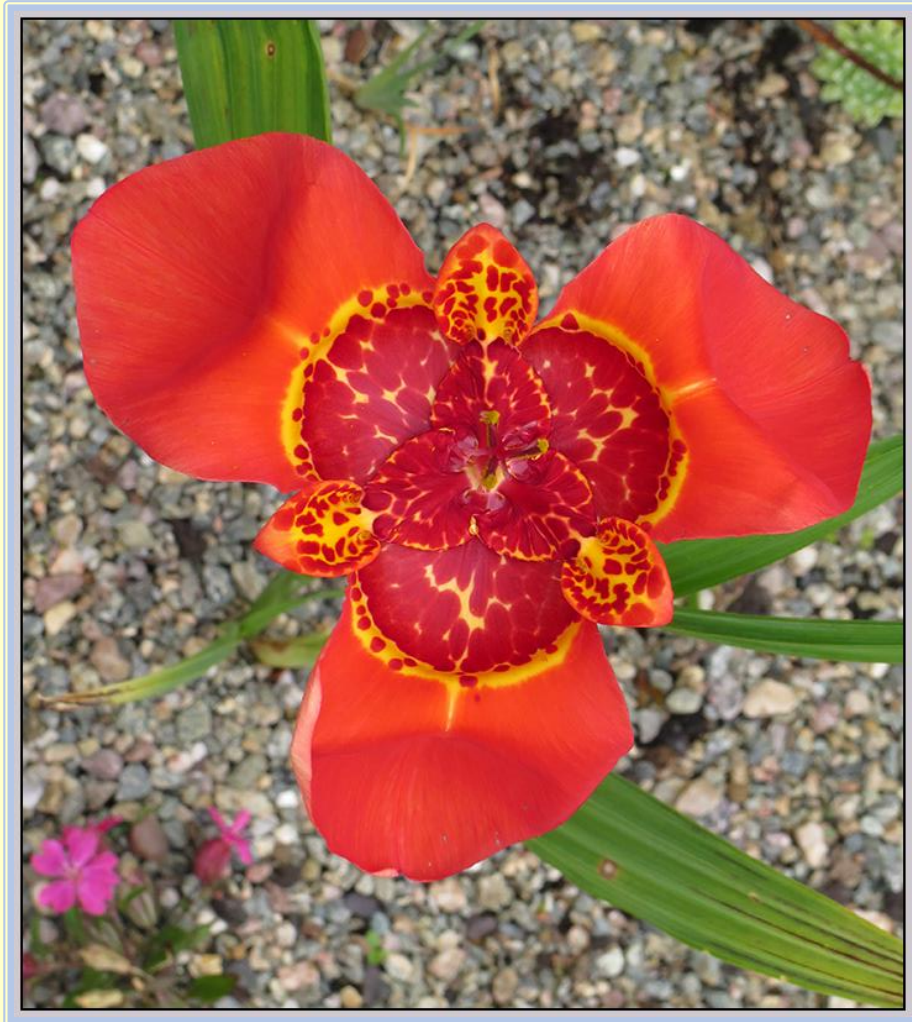




Alpine Garden Society Ulster Group

Plant of the Month, September 2019

Tigridia pavonia - by George Gordon



I came across this gaudy member of the *Iridaceae* entirely by accident. It was a left-over from the plant sale and the label suggested it had come from Harold McBride. I planted it out in a raised bed and entirely forgot about it. A few years later this spectacular flower appeared. What was it? Luckily I could still decipher the label. Since then I have looked forward to its appearance every August.

The genus *Tigridia* has about 27 members. They are all bulbous and come from Mexico down to Chile in South America. *T. pavonia* is about 35cm tall and the usually single flower only lasts a day. However it is replaced the next day by another over a period of a week or so. Seed is set copiously and presents no problem in germination.

I have germinated a few other *Tigridias* from the AGS Plant exchange and am looking forward to seeing the flowers for the first time.