

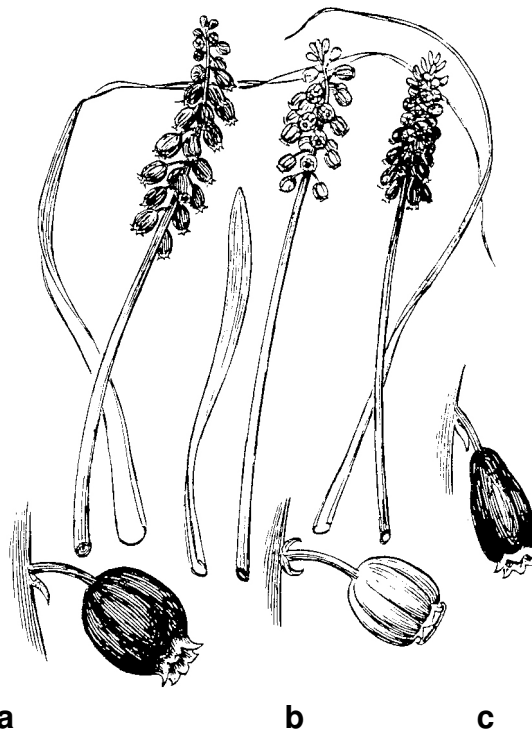
## **MUSCARI**

The illustrations and notes can be used in conjunction with the key in Stace's *New Flora* to help identify the following three similar species (*M. comosum* (L.) Mill., Tassel hyacinth, is obviously different to these with its erect tassels of upper flowers).

*M. armeniacum* Leichtlin ex Baker (Fig a) has lighter blue flowers than *M. neglectum*, and they become paler as they age (these are drawn a little dark). The flowers are scentless to most people.

*M. botryoides* (L.) Mill. (Fig. b) has a more globose perianth, scentless flowers, strongly recurved perianth teeth, two subtending bracteoles and broad short leaves.

*M. neglectum* Guss. ex Ten. (Fig. c) has deep blue flowers which turn blue-black as they age, and has a curious smell, supposedly of starch.



**Muscari.**  
(a) *M. armeniacum*,  
(b) *M. botryoides*,  
(c) *M. neglectum*.

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