Lou Ana Gardens flower buyer Robert Vanderkolk overlooks a planting for the fall season.

Lou Ana division blossoming

Sister firm of cooking oil producer finding niche with cut flowers

By MARCY REGAN

(CARSON S. - A division of Lou Ana Foods grows paperwhites, but they are not for sale.

"We grow them for our own use in the house," said the company's grower, whom we'll call Sam, adding, "But we've been told we could sell them for cut flowers." 

The paperwhites, which are native to China, were grown by Sam and his wife in the company's backyard. The couple sells them weekly to the community, and occasionally they even sell them to local restaurants.

The paperwhites are just one of the many flowers grown by Lou Ana Foods. The company also grows chrysanthemums, dahlias, and ranunculus.

"We've been growing flowers for a long time," said Sam, "and we've been getting a lot of interest from people who want to buy them for cut flowers." 

The company's flowers are sold at the company's farm stand and at local farmer's markets.

"We're trying to find a niche for our flowers," said Sam, "and we think we've found it in cut flowers." 

The flowers are grown in large numbers and are available throughout the year.

"We grow them in large numbers," said Sam, "and we sell them to local restaurants and florists." 

Lou Ana Foods is located at 123 Main Street in Carson. The company can be reached at 555-1234.