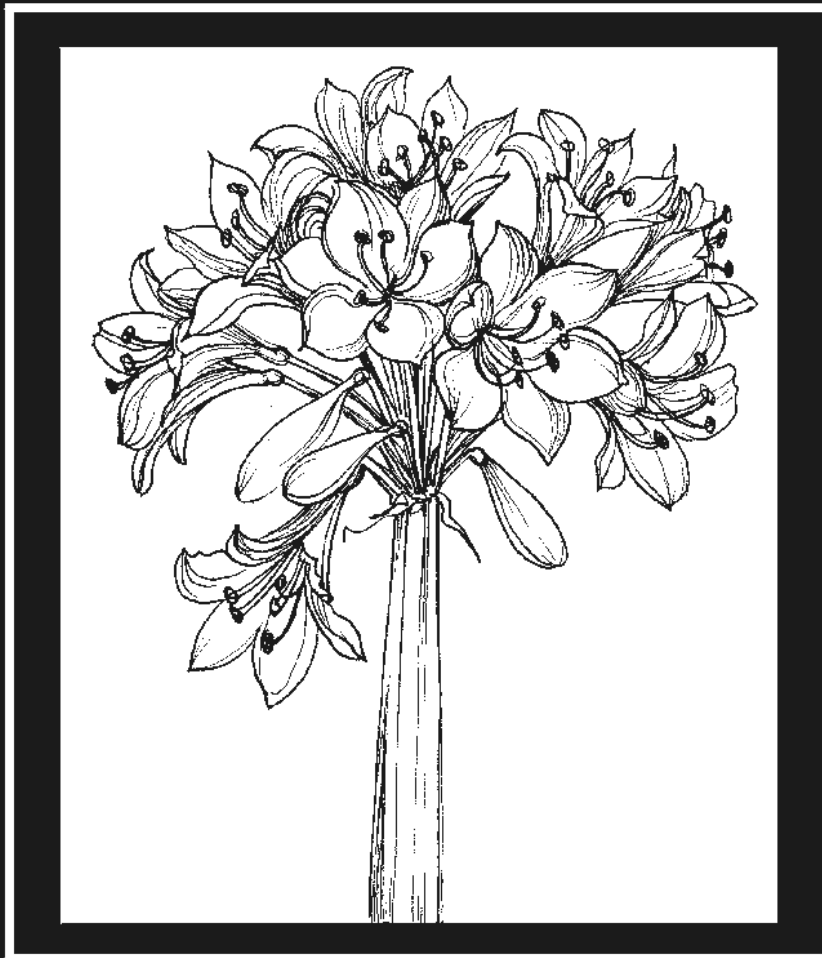


Volume 10 Number 4 Summer 2001

# CLIVIA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Clivia Society, PO Box 53219, Kenilworth 7745, South Africa



Membership: R.S.A. R80-00 p.a.; Overseas US\$20 (or equivalent) p.a.

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Views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the Committee and the Clivia Society.

Many thanks to Alta Bouwer and Peet Viljoen, the two persons responsible for respectively laying out and printing the newsletter. Congratulations in managing (despite illness) to produce this issue within three days after receiving the manuscript.

Chris Vlok



Alta Bouwer



Peet Viljoen

With the end of the year and the festive season almost upon us this issue comes very shortly after the Spring 2001 Newsletter. Although supposedly 'Summer' it is colder than it was in Spring!

I believe it is very important for everyone to have a passion in life about something, be it their job, vocation, a sport, a hobby or a collection. This newsletter has a lot to do with passions - passions in hybridising, passions leading to theft and passions in registering cultivars. For many members in the Clivia Society this passion is collecting and breeding clivias and producing ever more spectacular cultivars and hybrids. An excerpt from an orchid collector mirrors this passion. How sad it is when passions lead to growers dreams being dashed by thieves who steal much cherished collections of clivia lovers. Seeds and plants have also disappeared after members have opened their gardens for Club meetings, thus discouraging visits on future occasions. Thieving has not only happened in South Africa, Pen Henry has lost valuable plants from her collection in Australia.

Much of this newsletter is devoted to the thorny issue of naming of cultivars and their registration. Ken Smith in Australia has undertaken this onerous task. The editor offers, with great respect, her opinion that confusion reigns supreme, with some members giving highly articulate and clearly thought out points of view, while others seem not to appreciate the complexity of the problem and seem to approach the matter from an emotional position. Despite this, all these contributions are appreciated and they are presented in chronological order so that interested members can trace the development of ideas. From these initial concepts, a platform has been developed from which to launch the next phase of the exercise. Hopefully one day we will be like the rose growers where a 'Queen Elizabeth' or a 'Papa Meiland' means the same in New York as it does in Sydney.

Our oldest member of the Clivia Society, Margherita Blaser, is the 'personality' for this summer issue. She had passions about many things in her lifetime and perhaps this has contributed to her longevity. Most of us at half her age wish we could achieve as much as she does. Her story should inspire us to lead better lifestyles which will allow us to see many more generations of our clivia flowering!

The December issue of *House and Garden* features the McNeil garden by Mary Armour. It is titled "Never ending Garden" and has beautiful illustrations of clivia in flower. I am looking for an article which appeared about ten years ago about yellow clivia in which the 'Watkins Yellow' or 'Kearsney Yellow' clivia are mentioned. This is the subject of ongoing correspondence among clivia enthusiasts.

All good wishes for the festive season.

Meg Hart

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## A word from the chairman

The festive season draws near once again. I wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a relaxing and peaceful holiday. May the year ahead bring you many challenges and much joy.

Since the adoption of the Constitution, Sub-Committees have been put in place, as follows

### *Publications Newsletters*

Editor Meg Hart, Club representatives : Chris Vlok, John van der Linde, Brenda Nuss

*Publications Yearbook*

Mick Dower, Claude Felbert, John Winter

*Symposium Committee*

Chairman                Brian Tarr  
Show Manager        Sean Chubb  
Treasurer             Jean Luc Bestel  
Secretary             Terri Chubb  
Publicity              Bev Jackson  
Committee Members: Michael Riley, Glen Boyd

*PRO Committee*

Chris Vlok assisted by Club representatives: Sean Chubb, Toy Jennings

*Finance Committee*

Ian Brown assisted by Club representatives: Jean Luc Bestel, Bossie de Kock

*Registration Committee for the genus Clivia*

There is a definite need to have an active Committee. Both Brian Tarr (KwaZulu-Natal) and Quentin Jansen (Cape Province) have expressed interest in being involved. Any members interested in contributing to this important aspect of the Society, please contact me or the secretary, Joy Woodward. The next Annual General Meeting will be held at Kirstenbosch, Cape Town, on Saturday, 20 April 2002 at 2pm. You will be getting more details of this closer to the time. Port Elizabeth interest group have expressed interest in applying for full club status at that time.

My warm wishes to you all  
John Winter

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## Correspondence

### Hybridising

The following excerpt is from a book by Susan Orlean about Laroche called *The Orchid Thief*:

... he found himself seduced away by the orchids. He became obsessed with breeding them. He especially loved working on hybrids - cross-pollinating different types to create new orchid species. "Every time I'd make a new hybrid, it felt so cool," he said. "I felt a little like God." He often took germinating seeds and drenched them with household chemicals or cooked them for a minute in his microwave oven so they would mutate and perhaps turn into something really interesting, some bizarre new shape or colour never seen before in the orchid world. I guess I was a little shocked as he was describing the process, and when he glanced at me and caught my expression he took both hands off the wheel and waved them at me dismissively. "Oh, come on," he said. Mutation's great! Mutation's really fun! It's a great little hobby - you know, mutation is for fun and profit. And it's cool as hell. You end up with some cool stuff and some ugly stuff and stuff no one has ever seen before and it's just great."

I asked what the point of it was. "Hey, mutation is the answer to everything," he said irritably. "Look, why do

you think some people are smarter than other people? Obviously it's because they mutated when they were babies! I'm sure I was one of those people. When I was a baby I probably got exposed to something that mutated me, and now I'm incredibly smart. Mutation is great. It's the way evolution moves ahead. And I think it's good for the world to promote mutation as a hobby. You know there are an awful lot of wasted lives out there and people with nothing to do. This is the sort of interesting stuff they should be doing."

' *The orchid thief* ' is a non-fiction book about a horticulturalist called Laroche who lived in Louisiana. He wanted an orchid called 'The White Ghost', found in the swamps there, for tissue culturing. Because of laws protecting this orchid and forbidding its removal, he was unable to steal one himself without dire consequences. The indigenous people were however allowed to take it out of the nature reserve. Laroche had a brilliant idea. He negotiated with some American Indians to obtain one for him and he went as far as pointing out which one he wanted and showing them how to get it. The plan fell apart because the Indians not only purloined the orchid but cut off the branch to which it was attached. They were therefore arrested on the grounds that they had damaged the forest! Crime does not pay!

John van der Linde

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The Mystery of the Disappearing Clivia Seeds, or Miracle Clivias During a trip to the USA in May/June, I visited with an American member of the Clivia Club, Jerry Charpentier, who lives in Orlando, Florida, and who has been hybridizing clivia for about 15 years, I believe.

After enjoying his company and admiring his many clivia and other Amaryllis, he very kindly gave me some seeds of crosses he had made. I very carefully stored these seeds to protect them from too much hot or dry air and naturally took them out every so often to admire them. American Clivias! Wow!

When I left the USA, I very carefully packed the seeds in their little packets, wrapping one in a little damp paper, as it was sprouting and looking too dry. I stashed them away in our bags intending to take them out and air them in England. When I reached the UK, they were gone, but completely missing! Well, you can imagine, the small granddaughter was prime suspect, but on reaching home, the seeds were still absolutely and completely gone. Complete despair!

Well, that was mid June, 2000. On November 11, almost exactly 5 months later, I took a bag out and as I opened it, noticed there was something in the pocket. Of course, it was those Clivia seeds. Now, that pocket is made of thick shiny plastic, on the inside of a navy blue bag, and it was packed away at the bottom of a dark cupboard.

Of the 4 packets of seeds, 2 seeds were germinating in one packet, the seeds in two packets were completely dried out, but the seeds wrapped in moist paper, far from being rotten had grown a 3 cm leaf, and a 2 cm root, and was still slightly damp.!! (Two weeks later and a little green leaf has appeared on one of the germinating seeds.)

I'm now looking forward to watching the little plants grow, and later enjoying their blooms. They must surely be very special to have survived all of that travelling and ill treatment.

Kind regards,

Felicity Weedon

19 November 2001

PO Box 1468, Hermanus, 7200

*It is amazing how tough and resilient clivia seedlings can be. Editor*

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### **The darker side to our common passion**

It is probably on account of my subconscious obsession with ` *Lebensraum*' that I have so far resisted converting my home into a walled or palisade-fenced fortress as most urbanized citizens in the new South Africa have done. Instead, I cherish the indigenous trees and rock outcrops which form a natural barrier separating me from civilisation. My clivias are set well back from the street and I have always subscribed to the adage that what the eye does not see, the heart does not grieve. Nevertheless I have had a gut feeling for many years that at some stage or other I would be the target of a muti doctor intent on replenishing his supply of clivia to be used as a protective medicine or charm calculated to render evil ineffective. But my wake-up call came from a totally unexpected quarter.

During my career I had more than my fair share of committees and meetings, and when I retired some eight years ago I was adamant not to become involved in any activities of this nature. Instead, I offered my services to the Clivia Club as mentor to aspiring growers. By so doing I could make a contribution to an organization that has gone a long way in promoting the interests of the clivia fraternity. Accordingly, when an aspiring clivia enthusiast contacted me requesting assistance I willingly agreed. He pitched up at my home together with an accomplice and we spent the better part of the morning discussing the niceties of clivia culture. The visit was followed by a second during which more specific questions were raised. Really a keen guy I thought. Welcoming his apparent enthusiasm I literally bared my clivia soul to him, little realizing that I was being set up for a sting !

The `hit' came a fortnight later just as the clivia flowering season was on the wane. I must have been snoring soundly and, the weather being somewhat crisp, our Jack Russel cum XYZ Steekbaard was cosily tucked under his duvet in his basket in the bedroom. The clivia collectors had the place to themselves and the full night to collect what they wished. And this they did with the care and precision of a surgeon's scalpel! Full marks to them for their choice of plants and their navigational skills among my (intentionally) poorly-marked blocks of plants. They knew exactly what to take and where to find things - I could not have done better myself ! When their vehicle could take no more pots, they resorted to tearing the plants out of their pots, carefully tying together groups of plants of common origin. They'd done their homework and came prepared.

I discovered the damage during my rounds next morning. The culprits' ability to pinpoint and target specific unmarked plants left absolutely no doubt in my mind as to their identity. They were the only individuals whom I had shown these specific plants. Yet they left no tell-tale clues and it was pointless to summon the police. I could prove nothing. On the recommendation of the chairman of the Northern Clivia Club I made a statement to the police and a theft docket was opened to place the incident officially on record. The hopelessness of bringing my nocturnal visitors to book was, to say the least, frustrating. Infinitely more distressing is one's inevitable loss of faith in some of our fellow clivia enthusiasts. What's more, this is not the first incident of this nature. Have we really reached a stage where passion is giving way to compulsive obsession?

Dr. Bing Wiese

***Northern Clivia Club Chairman's comment***

*I wish to encourage our members who become aware of theft, to report such theft to the Disciplinary Committee so that the necessary action can be taken. All of our members view the theft of plants and seed in a very serious light and would like to see suitable steps being taken against those found guilty. Please help us to eradicate this cancer from amongst us. Tino Ferero.*

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## E-Group news

### Registration of Cultivar Names

*The Clivia Society will celebrate its tenth anniversary in 2002 and during the last decade it has grown from a handful of members, mostly in South Africa, to a membership of about a thousand who are spread around the world.*

*One of the principle objectives for many in this enthusiastic group of growers is to produce plants and flowers which are distinctive. Inevitably as this process evolves growers look for ways and means of putting their stamp on those specimens which have different or outstanding characteristics. One way of doing this is to register and name individual plants providing the grower with some sort of protection rather like a copyright. This process has reached fairly high levels of development in other plant families, the rose being an example which comes to mind.*

*There has been much discussion in the Clivia Society about starting a register of cultivar names, and work on this was initiated by Nick Primich. The establishment of a register as the naming of a new cultivar has to be done according to Rules in the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants. Nick Primich obtained the 'Guide for forming new cultivar names' from the International Society for Horticultural Science, but as this has copyright it cannot be published yet. The editor on her part has written to the Society requesting permission to publish the guide in a forthcoming newsletter. Jim Shields has summarised the main points in his last e-mail in the following correspondence. Nick Primich started compiling a register of cultivar names and this has now been taken over by Ken Smith from Australia. We set the ball rolling in this edition by publishing some of the preliminary discussions and observations from the clivia enthusiast e-mail and the latest developments. Editor*

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I have just completed an article for the Clivia Club Yearbook that details the named cultivars of Clivia grown in Australia. Something like 50-60 are grown. I have a listing from America that has about 75 cultivar names, and I am sure that it is not complete. I haven't counted the South African named forms but a similar number would be grown. Then there is the cultivar list from the UK that needs considering also. Some of these cultivars are sure to be lost.

The registering of the named Clivia cultivars/ hybrids is a task that needs to be done and to that end I would ask any members of the clivia enthusiast eGroup to send me any information they may have on their local Clivia cultivars. I am happy to work on collating this list and will forward my findings to the Clivia Club committee looking after this issue.

Please forward the details of the names, origins, references etc., to my e-mail address. Thanks in anticipation of your collective help.

Regards,  
Ken Smith (Australian Contact person for the

Clivia Club)  
Winmalee NSW Australia  
cliviasmith@hotmail.com  
19 April 2000

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The issue of registering clivia names and cultivars is very important, there is so much confusion and synonyms for the same plants. For example Mr. X found a yellow clivia in the wild near the Howick Falls and called the plant 'Howick Yellow', which should actually be *C. miniata* var. *citrina* "Howick" to be correct. He then gives an offshoot to a Mr. A, who in turn refers to the plant as a Mr. X instead of a 'Howick', he then gives an offshoot to a Mr. G and so on. Every time the plant changes hands it gets a different name. This leads to a situation where the same plant (clone) ends up with five or six different names. To complicate this matter even more people tend to give the same name to seedlings of a certain clone, so now you have hundreds of different clones with the same name. I think to make an attempt to name cultivars is important but near impossible, also it will be necessary to educate people exactly in what the specifications are for a cultivar. One of the biggest problems in naming clivia is the slow rate of vegetative reproduction, there are very few plants which have been cloned sufficiently to justify cultivar status, if tissue culture can become an economically viable reality, only then will the naming of cultivars become a feasible option.

Rudo Lötter  
Cyrtanthiflora Clivia breeders  
clivia@iafrica.com  
21 April 2001

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In response to the discussion on the naming of clivias, I wrote to Dr Trevor Edwards, a botanist and taxonomist at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. Here is his response:

Mark Laing  
mdl@sai.co.za  
12 June 2000

Dear Mark

The problem lies with the horticulturalists. I think everyone is in 90% agreement that species are potentially interbreeding units which share a common morphological facies (of course there are always exceptions). The taxonomic problems occur when divergence between two end points is incomplete then the boundaries become blurred. Subspecies are generally accepted as morphologically divergent taxa which are also geographically separated. In forest dwelling herbs this is common on the subcontinent where disjunctions have been imposed by glacial and interglacial periods (with correlated expansion and contraction of forest patches). Clearly such events divide gene pools, at which point genetic drift causes divergence (microspeciation).

Varieties are individuals which show a recognizable character i.e. anthocyanin albinism. Often these are somewhat trivial in the greater scheme of things merely an outstanding genetic expression i.e. consider albinism in humans. Below varieties are ecotypes and forms which are seldom used.



All of the above categories are validated with a botanical description in an internationally circulated journal and typified by a dried specimen housed in an internationally recognised herbarium. The confusion in the Clivia nomenclature is driven by indiscriminate naming beyond the process outlined above. I think that it probably needs regulation. In orchids outstanding clones and meristems are registered and named in inverted commas i.e. *Cattleya labiata* 'Monty'. Usually these are awarded clones or clones used extensively in breeding.

You need to consult the International Code of Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants to solve the Clivia confusion. I presume you need to name and differentiate between

- 1) outstanding clones (of both species and hybrids)
- 2) outstanding breeding lines i.e. outstanding siblings (of both hybrids and species).

Trevor Edwards  
Edwards@nu.ac.za

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Perhaps we can use the clivia enthusiast as a means to publish names for cultivars, will this be acceptable. A breeder could submit a photograph and description of a plant for naming. It can make things so much easier.

Rudo Lötter  
13 June 2000

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Now I have a question for someone who is familiar with the current rules of the ICNCP for plant cultivar names. How are unregistered names to be treated if they are in common use?

When the American Plant Life Society surrendered its duties as official registrar for plants in the Amaryllidaceae, my understanding was that the Royal General Bulb Growers association in the Netherlands assumed those responsibilities. There must be an existing catalogue of previously registered names for the genus Clivia. Those names ought to be published as soon as possible, before we try to collect unregistered names.

Jim Shields  
jshields@starband.net  
14 June 2000

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I feel that it is useful to build up a checklist of Clivia cultivar names that have been recorded in the past. The research I have been doing so far shows that the same names are used by different people for Clivias in a few instances. By listing the names, whether valid or not, those people that are intending to "name" their cultivars will at least have an idea of the names in circulation. I am sure that confusion will still prevail, but a start has to be made to organise things. There will be some names that will not be copied, ie 'Relly Williams', but what about 'Yellow Spider'? Several people may name a clone the same, yet the plants will be genetically different. If we disregard the "old, invalid names" and start afresh, what happens when a new plant is being sold under a previous name? It won't happen often but it is possible. I have had no response to my e-mail to the RBGB association in the Netherlands, so I don't know of any existing list of registered Clivia names. Looking forward to our combined efforts in this regard.

Ken Smith, Winmalee NSW, AUSTRALIA  
cliviasmith@hotmail.com  
15 June 2001

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We looked for one but could not find any Clivia names.

Harold Koopowitz  
hkoopowi@uci.edu  
15 June 2000

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Unregistered and unpublished names have no nomenclatural standing, even in common use. The only option is to register and publish such names as soon as possible.

Piet Vorster  
PJVOR@AKAD.SUN.AC.ZA  
15 June 2000

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Many messages and much confusion. I am sorry if I do not make myself clear. It is not possible to register names at this stage, as we first have to compile as complete a list as we can of all known published names. When this is done, we will be able to start registering names. There are no known registrations of Clivia names. Existing published names may be registered by the owners if they so wish. No new names will be allowed if they are already on the list and do not belong to the applicant. New names will be accepted if they conform to the rules which will be published shortly.

Nick Primich  
15 June 2000

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Anyone of you wishing to preserve a name of one of your own clivias for your own use prior to having it registered, may do so by publishing it in a catalogue of your own wherein you give a short description of the plant. It does not have to be for sale, but you will probably sell some seeds of it from the next crop. You may also publish it by means of a picture, but you should still give a description and state if it is a miniata, interspecific, or even unknown. Something like Val and I have done these past few days. I will gather up all these names into the preliminary list, and then you may check to see if it is legal and registerable. Also, by the date of publication one can see who has prior claim to duplicated names.

Nick Primich  
3 August 2000

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Electronic publication may not count! It does not for species taxonomy.

Harold Koopowitz  
3 August 2001

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You may certainly reserve the name for your own use. As Harold pointed out to me, electronic publishing is not recognised in botanic nomenclature, and Dr. Alan Leslie has informed me this is true for the cultivated plants as well. However, I have decided that I will collect all the names off the web and publish them myself. This I will do by printing them all out on a dated mss. and handing out quite a few at the show. This will avoid any problems that will crop up later from ignoring the names that are only electronically published to date.

Nick Primich  
11 August 2001

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Please read the attached file if you are interested in Cultivar names. Things are a bit different to what we thought they were.

Nicholas Primich  
26 August 2000

*At this stage all efforts to register cultivar names were halted because of the implications in the "Guide for forming new cultivar names" which was an attachment to this e-mail. Editor.*

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With regard to your current work with registration of cultivar names; I was heavily involved with this activity for Dahlias and Dianthus for over 10 years and was invited to take on the role as International Dahlia Registrar at one stage. I have to say that I have become somewhat disillusioned as to the utility of such an activity. It is a bit like collecting train numbers. There is no real link between a given name and a specific genotype, at the end of the day the register just becomes a list of names with plenty of scope for people to ego trip. "People wish to leave their thumbprint on the pages of history".

With the Dahlia Register the vast majority of entries are given with parentage unknown! It would be really useful if a description was given for each entry sufficient to be able to identify the characteristics which defined that specific cultivar, together with its parentage. We might then be able to trace the development of the plant in cultivation.

While with De Coster in Belgium in June I went through back issues of the Belgian Horticultural Society for the second half of the Nineteenth Century. I had the clear impression that many of the so called cultivar names applied only to individual plants which had been pulled out of a population and were put in front of some award committee on a specific day in time. A little bit like giving an individual name to a cat or dog. Unless a genotype is propagated vegetatively to form a clone and is disseminated to some reasonable extent it can hardly be considered to be a clonal cultivar. I find little or no evidence that this occurred. In my searches through old catalogues I find little evidence of Clivias having at any time being disseminated as named clones. Seed strains yes, but clones no.

I will agree that Cat and Dog pedigrees, by necessity, work on a series of combinations of individual animals, but here several generations are precisely detailed.

With Clivias there is a tendency for people to coin names for convenience. I have stuff labelled 'Walters Yellow' simply because Kevin Walters was kind enough to supply me with material. I know full well that plants grown from offsets of 'Walter's Yellow' to other people are now variously known as 'Keith's Yellow', 'Hammett's Yellow' and so on.

Further, now that plants are becoming more widely available, commercial nurseries are having labels printed and are coining pseudo cultivar names to embrace populations of seed raised plants.

I do not wish to be negative with regard to having a register of cultivar names, but we do need to understand what it is and not consider it to be something that we would like it to be.

Dr. Keith Hammett  
khammett@clear.net.nz  
29 August 2000

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How is the collected list of named clivia varieties coming along? I notice that most cultivated clivia plants seem to have vague or confused variety names. Is the confusion only in our minds? It would certainly help to have a published list of all the valid cultivar names in circulation.

Sir Peter named two yellow-flowered clivias: 'Vico Yellow' and 'Vico Gold'.

Robert Archer, I am more than a little confused about how botanists distinguished at the subspecific level between subspecies, variety, and form. The *Clivia miniata citrina* seem to be a single gene variant among an otherwise similar looking population. In my non-botanical mind, that seems like it should be a form rather than a variety or subspecies.

According to the abstract that was noted in this list recently, one can in principle now distinguish among the species by the r-RNA genes. Perhaps if we have a histologist in this group he/she could explain how technically difficult the procedures are for doing this.

Jim Shields  
29 November 2000

*For about a year nothing further was mentioned about registration of cultivar names.  
Editor.*

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Do we have an official or authorized registrar for new cultivar names for the genus *Clivia*? What moves me to bring this up again is that I am thinking of soon putting a name to one of my plants, as it will need to be divided soon - it's bursting the seams of its 5-gallon plastic nursery container. It is a very nice dark red-orange Belgian type with medium-broad leaves that I am using in breeding toward reds. I'm tired of referring to it as No. 303-A, and divisions will be more negotiable with a name.

At least that is strongly the case with day lilies, where I have registered nearly 40 cultivars over the last 20-25 years. The single most important feature in marketing a day lily cultivar is the name. In some cases a terrific name has sold a merely so-so day lily. Almost as important is the flower itself, of course.

I'm familiar with the day lily registration process. We need to first be sure we get a new, unique name (in the genus concerned); for that we have available booklets and CDROMs with all the cultivar names known to have been used for day lilies since 1893, 108 years ago. Over 40,000 names have been registered for day lilies in that span of time.

We also need to provide a physical description. Ideally, this would be so exact that it would serve to distinguish this cultivar from all others previously registered. In fact, none ever are so precise! We also note its growth habits, bloom season, etc.

So, how do I register a cultivar name for my clivia? Who has the application forms? Is there a list of the previously used names for clivia cultivars? I recall that someone (Nick?) was hard at work on this a year ago, but since then I haven't seen much comment on the naming process here in the group.

Where do I go from here?  
Thanks in advance,

Jim Shields  
jshields@starbrand.net  
22 November 2001

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Jim and all concerned enthusiasts,

This is going to be a major task for the Clivia enthusiasts. Some time back there was discussion about cultivar names. Nick was gathering information and so was I. There are a lot of "named" Clivias out there and the task of collating all the information is a big one. I have a list of several hundred names sourced from many avenues, as does Nick. I would like to be able to say that my list is in a usable format, but that is not the case. To make the "Registry of Clivia Cultivars" meaningful, it needs to have details of breeder, plant characteristics, availability etc ... but at this point, it is just a list. Nothing official. To make it work, it needs the input of ALL Clivia growers and collectors who have named forms in their possession. Once this work is done, it really only becomes a list of names, it doesn't make the cultivars more available or cheaper, it just lists them. From a history point of view this is good. It even helps the new breeder to select appropriate names and not double up on old names (we hope!).

As far as naming a clone, all you need to do is pick a name that suits it. Whether or not the name has been applied to a Clivia before remains to be seen. This of course is the problem. It won't be "official", but at least you can stop using 303-A.

I had better drag out the cultivar names file I have and start doing some serious article writing.

Kind Regards  
Ken Smith  
cliviasmith@hotmail.com

23 November 2001

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There are no unsurmountable problems in registering cultivar names, but there are definite rules as set out in the International Code of Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants. One of the prerequisites is that all plants carrying a cultivar name must be genetically identical, so a cultivar must be able to be mass-propagated by cuttings or tissue culture.

If anyone is serious about starting a registering office for Clivia cultivars, I suggest that he contacts Mr. Piers Trehane at [piers@indhort.demon.co.uk](mailto:piers@indhort.demon.co.uk)

Piet Vorster  
PJVOR@AKAD.SUN.AC.ZA  
23 November 2001

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According to Dr. Jim Waddick, the Clivia Club (South Africa) is the international registration authority (ICRA) for genus Clivia, and he sent as contact a non-working e-mail address for

Nick Primich.

So it appears to be the responsibility of the Clivia Club, but what individual is actually the contact person for the registration of clivia names? I seem to remember, as someone just mentioned, a past post from Nick stating that he could not take on the job, but has anyone notified ICNCP of that?

Jim Shields  
[jshields@starbrand.net](mailto:jshields@starbrand.net)  
23 November 2001

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I think that unless we can find a way to propagate clones in number, it will be fruitless to register cultivar names. The best we can do is to have our own register, until the means are there to tissue culture clivia.

Rudo Lötter  
24 November 2001

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We cannot apparently register names for Clivia at the moment; why should we want to? This is rather long, but the issue is very complex, and it will be of concern to many commercial growers and sellers of Clivia around the world, whether or not it is of concern to members of our group here.

Bear in mind that there are many aspects to breeders' or growers' protecting their rights to new plant varieties that they create. Protecting the plants against vegetative propagation by others involves patenting varieties or reserving growers' rights.

Protecting the name you give to your clivia is similar, yet different, and at least as complicated.

You can trademark a name, for a plant or for a line of plants from your nursery or business. There are ways to enforce such names in

courts of law. Another type of name is used in patenting a plant variety.

A cultivar name registered with the International Society for Horticultural Sciences' authorized registration agent (ICRA) protects that name from being registered by anyone else for any plant in the same genus. It provides no legal protection in courts of law. It is a purely voluntary system, designed to help nurserymen to cooperate with other nurserymen, to avoid duplication of names in naming their own varieties.

As a voluntary system, it is open to flagrant abuse. On the other hand, as a means of assuring that you are getting what you order when you order a cultivar by registered name, it is very convenient to all of us in the horticultural world.

My knowledge of the rules for the nomenclature of cultivated plants, the "International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants" (ICNCP) is superficial. I'm vague on details here. If you want or need all the facts, the precise rules that apply, then order a copy of the ICNCP book. But in general, things stand more or less as follows:

It appears that, as of now, almost all the names in use for clones and strains of clivia are informal or "garden" names. It would be possible for an authorized registration agent (or ICRA) to record a list of names already in common use and disqualify them from being registered. If the originator of the name is known and still alive, that party could presumably register the name in an appropriate manner if the ICRA approved.

To register a name, the originator of the clone or strain submits a physical description characterizing the clone or strain to be named, along with the proposed name. There are rules about how the name is formulated. It must be no longer than (I think) 35 characters, including spaces; the last word in the name must not be a word commonly used (in the language of the name itself) for a different type of plant. You can't name a daylily "Pink Rose" anymore. In fact, both words in that invalid name are for other plants.

A valid publication of an unregistered name that would not preclude it's being registered by the originator and which would preclude others from registering it (all assumed being for the same genus) would be in a printed catalogue with a full description of the plant, published by the originator of that variety.

Why start registering names now, before mass production of named clones has begun? Well, to protect your own variety names from being usurped and later registered by other growers, for a start.

If you do not now care about naming your own creations, you will not be forced by anybody, ever, to start naming them and registering the names, not now nor later.

If you intend to commercialize your creations in the genus *Clivia* at some date in the near or far future, you might want to register names for them to assure that you still have those names in the future. If you leave them as informal, garden names, anyone could register them for other cultivars later.

And finally, the fine print at the bottom. If there is not a functioning ICRA registrar of *Clivia* names when any grower insists on registering some *Clivia* names, that company or person can file a formal complaint with ISHS. If the present holder of the ICRA for *Clivia* does not respond to the satisfaction of the ISHS, the present

ICRA could well be withdrawn and would be awarded to someone else. The present holder for genus Clivia is listed as "Clivia Club", and the holder's representative is listed as Nick Primich (with a no longer valid e-mail address, by the way).

Think about it, please. The saying goes, "Use it or lose it"; and that could well apply here.

Jim Shields  
jshields@starband.net  
27 November 2001

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I spent the afternoon working on my Clivia Checklist. I combined some lists and went through some notes. So far I have 298 listed names for Clivias and that doesn't include the Japanese or the Chinese ones. Some interesting things are coming to light in this project. I still have more research to do, so if you think you have a named Clivia that I could add to the checklist, please send me a private message.

Chris Vlok, what can you tell us about the Clivia Society position on this aspect of the hobby?

Ken Smith, Winmalee NSW, AUSTRALIA  
cliviasmith@hotmail.com  
1 December 2001

\*\*\*\*\*

The Clivia Club is the only body, which can register and publish new clivia cultivars. If we look at Natal Yellow as an example, it is a plant that offshoots freely and an estimate of at least 1000 offshoots are sold in this country every year. In future many other special plants will also become more available through the distribution of offshoots. We need to get the names published and registered and this has to be done in an official way.

May I suggest the following: members of the clivia club who want to register a cultivar have to send a photo and description of the plant to the club, the club will then decide if these plants are significantly outstanding and worthy of registration. The chosen few are published in the club's yearbook, and added to the club's register. This might not be the best way to register new cultivars, but it is good start.

Rudo Lötter  
clivia@iafrica.com  
5 December 2001

\*\*\*\*\*

Under the International Rules, the official registrar may NOT refuse to register any plant, so long as the name meets the rules in the International Code. To attempt to do so would directly result in losing the authority to register names!

The Clivia Club, of course, will also lose that authority if it defaults on the duties involved.

Jim Shields



jshields@starband.net  
5 December 2001

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This is good, because it prevents favoritism, cronyism, and other forms of bias, censorship and discrimination. The registering authority must never concern itself with the business of plant evaluation, or the propriety of names - it is strictly charged with the keeping of records. The International Code/Rules of plant nomenclature should be the only standard. Occasionally a society originally concerned with the promotion of a particular plant loses

sight of this principle, and the inevitable corruption results. The American Hemerocallis Society has had its hand slapped for this type of thing before - when it attempted to censor certain names that hybridizers wished to register cultivars under - names that clearly conformed to the international rules, but which were somehow determined to be inappropriate by the AHS registration committee.

Something else to consider: A few years ago the AHS determined that an unregistered day lily was ineligible to receive any awards bestowed by the society - a move that many interpreted as being primarily profit driven. I'm not certain, but I believe that this applied to both garden awards and show awards. There is strong opinion on things of this nature, and the best solution probably lies somewhere between the two extremes, however when things like this occur, one is left with the impression that the AHS has lost sight of its original purpose, and that it believes that it somehow owns the day lily.

With the freedom to name and register any cultivar comes the responsibility of self restraint - i.e. to ensure that only those varieties that are truly distinct, or in some way represent a significant advancement in the genus are registered. In my short association with the AHS, I have personally witnessed many amateur hybridizers develop a rewarding obsession and pastime into a commercial enterprise. All too often, that transition has been responsible for a reduction in personal plant evaluation standards, accompanied by the registration and introduction of fault-ridden and 'also-ran' cultivars, simply in order to pay the bills. Over the years, this has contributed to the registration of something like 40,000 Hemerocallis cultivars, many of which were named upon seeing the maiden bloom, with little thought given to the plant habit or general plant health or hardiness. Many of these were introduced to the trade with a minimal evaluation period. I would hope that the Clivia hybridizers of this world would do a good amount of soul searching and objective evaluation of their work, and not follow this type of example.

Ken K. East S.F. Bay Area, Ca.,  
USDA Zone 9, -2°C to 38°C  
ellipsis@concentric.net  
5 December 2001

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I have been busy over the last few days and the Checklist file of Clivia names that I am working on is now around 320 names. I am adding more to the file as I receive them. I think enthusiasts will be surprised at the content of the list. If you feel that you have "a named Clivia" in your collection, please send me details to put in the Checklist.

Ken Smith . Winmalee NSW AUSTRALIA  
cliviasmith@hotmail.com  
5 December 2001

*Well, if that doesn't encourage members to submit details of their named clivia, nothing will! Ed.*

## Personality parade

### Margherita Blaser



Margherita's parents, staunch Roman Catholics, emigrated from Italy to South Africa in 1903 and Margherita Isola was born on 14 October 1904 in Hope Street, Cape Town. She had two brothers. Her father was employed as a carpenter for Rubi Builders but during 1908 they moved to a farm on the Cape Flats where they produced vegetables. Her father was responsible for introducing several new varieties of vegetables such as broccoli, Brussel sprouts and asparagus into the country. He supplied asparagus, Brussel sprouts, endive, table celery and other vegetables as well as chicken, pork and veal to seven hotels, among them the White House, The Mount

Nelson and The Grand.

Margherita and her two brothers attended school in the Cape Flats until Standard 4 and she then continued her education at St Mary's in Cape Town. Her mother ran a shop at the top of Church Street and at weekends they returned home to the Flats. While attending school in Cape Town she learnt to embroider and still has a few pieces which she intends to present to a museum. She took piano lessons in Claremont for 15 years and hated every minute of it, instead she concentrated on sewing and cooking. She aspired to be a nun, but her father objected. Margherita was not allowed to go to work as did her colleagues who were dressmaking hands when they left school at 16 years and were paid 2/6d a week. Margherita sewed from home and made dresses to order. She was very much in demand for wedding dresses, supplied fashion houses such as Lilian Salmon and made dresses for Princess Labia and her daughter- in-law, the Countess Labia. "In those days we made our own patterns!" In the 1930's a Mrs Stubbs used to bring her about four lengths of material saying: "You know my style, call me when you are ready to fit." A reasonable charge for a dress was 4 guineas and for a suit 7 guineas. For some years she had a small factory with 7 seamstresses. She recently made a dress for her 90th birthday party and in her 93rd year she made a wedding dress for a grandson's bride beautifully finished and a perfect fit. She longs to get back to her workroom but does not find much time except to do urgent and specific repairs for her family. She still makes her own dresses and would love to make a wedding dress again. When Margherita sits down in the evening to watch TV news and the very occasional documentary, she picks up her crochet or knitting to make table centres or a jersey.

Margherita's story must be told against some local history. Conveyance from the Cape Flats until 1920 was either by Cape cart or the family vegetable car. In that year her father acquired a Red Diamond T-lorry, the first farmer on the Cape Flats to have one. The train ran through Lansdowne to Simon's Town but was not near enough for their convenience. The first aeroplanes passed over in 1920 and people watched them until they were out of sight.

The first Roman Catholic Church on the Cape Flats was built by Margherita's father, in Italian style at his expense. The Priest came from Rondebosch to say mass. The Palestine Sisters of St Joseph's Home for Cripples moved down from George because of the new church. The sisters subsequently went to Pinelands and afterwards to Pallotti Hospital. The church was broken down to build a road and the churchyard graves, including those of her parents, were taken to Maitland Cemetery.

There were many mole snakes and cobras on the Cape Flats. Margherita once shot one with a double-barrelled

shotgun. She shot hares and doves as well, all of which provided food for the family. She could walk anywhere because it was safe in those days and "there was just bush, bush, bush; men shot grysbok from Wetton to Bellville. Coloureds and whites lived happily together no apartheid much better!" There were many wild flowers - Maartblom ( *Brunsvigia* ), Soldaatjies (Red Hot Poker or Torch lily) and blue flowers close to the ground. There was also Boetabossie (possibly Boetebossie Burweed *Xanthium spinosum* or Boetabessie bush-tick berry which is *Chrysanthimoides monilifera* ).

In the early days people arranged surprise parties and the whole neighbourhood converged on the chosen house bringing drinks, eats, and music for dancing. Her brother escorted Margherita and it was at such a party that she met her future husband, John Blaser, a Swiss National. She married him at the age of 29 years on 26 December 1931. They had no honeymoon but moved straight into their new home which her brother had built for them for the sum of nine hundred pounds. They had two daughters and two sons; the daughters are married, the elder son, Emil, became a priest and the other a successful businessman. There are seven grandchildren (but only one granddaughter) and this year Margherita became a great-grandmother to a little girl. The Blaser family moved to 58 Lansdowne Road, Claremont, 55 years ago. She started a restaurant and one of her patrons was the artist, Irma Stern. Margherita was widowed in 1976 and she still lives in the old home in Claremont.

John Blaser came from Switzerland to join the staff of Bally Shoes and retired in 1963. After he retired they visited Switzerland for a second time. When they returned to Cape Town Margherita developed very severe arthritis and was confined to bed. This affliction lasted four to five months but after treatment by Dr Peter Dowling, a naturopath, she was cured in three weeks. Since then she has not eaten oranges, beef, pickles or chutney; chicken and fish are her main proteins and on occasion pork, but when eating out she will eat mutton. She has never tasted a hamburger, eats no fried food and never buys sweets. She drinks neither coffee nor tea (only bush tea and chicory) and has never tasted Coca Cola, Pepsi Cola or any synthetic cool-drinks.

After Mr Blaser died she took lodgers for many years and had a deaf mute to help run the house and do weekly washing. Eventually she took senior schoolboys as lodgers as this was easier. She now lives on her own and does all her housework and gardening with the assistance of a gardener and a housemaid twice a month. Every inch of her garden is planted 'the way it happened', but Margherita knows each plant by name in spite of the great variety. She uses a lot of these as herbs and knows their various uses.

Margherita has had neither serious illness nor operations, she takes no medication, keeps no tablets in the house and has no general practitioner. She picks various herbs from her garden and makes a concoction which she drinks throughout the day. She ascribes her longevity to healthy eating and good living habits. Her lovely curly hair is now grey. She keeps it looking good by cutting and setting it herself. She always looks smart, younger than her years, dresses well, prefers russet colours and never wears blue or green. Margherita has many friends and acquaintances and her home is an open door to those passing by some call and say "do you know me?" and if she doesn't at first, after reminiscing they recall special moments of times past. These memories are shared over her baking and a 'cuppa'.

Margherita is a member of both the Italian and Swiss Clubs and of the Catholic Women's League. She belongs to several groups including the Cape Horticultural Society and up until three years ago, the Durbanville Garden Club (she frequently exhibited at their shows with as many as 25 exhibits), the Rondebosch Flower Arranging Society, the Cape Town Herb Group (which she resigned from because she did not like the venue), the Liliium Society and at one stage the Rose Society. She took a fancy to Clivias some 12 years ago and in 1997 joined the Clivia Club. One of her clivias won a second prize at the first Cape Clivia Club Show in 1997. The certificate is framed and stands in her kitchen and she is very proud of it. She loves her clivias. Margherita likes gardening and is fascinated by plants, having many exotic plants and herbs. With her green fingers, she

is most successful in growing slips and like most people from farming stock, she is a very generous gardener. Many of her visitors leave with pot plants and slips, so many gardens have very similar plants to hers.

Many women of Margherita's era learnt to drive a motorcar - she did not, but she can give clear directions if she has travelled that way before! She is however no backseat driver and inspires confidence in those she trusts! Can other members kill a chicken and dress it neatly, fillet a fish, advise on growing herbs, do pastry demonstrations, prepare tasty meals, bake cakes, calculate sufficient dishes for a celebration, sew, knit, crochet, do floral decorations and garden? All this at 97 years!

Combination of interviews by Phyllis Watson and Gert Wiese.

*She treated my wife and I to ravioli that she made while we watched. She also demonstrated how spaghetti is made. At the end of a very pleasant and interesting visit, we left with a feeling of amazement and admiration for this remarkable and gracious personality who is the oldest member of the world-wide Clivia Society at present. Gert Wiese.*

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## Competition for best Clivia article in 2001

Pen Henry from Perth suggested an annual prize in recognition of the best article to appear in the newsletter (see Volume 10 Number 2 Winter 2001 page 9). Pen has kindly offered an offset from her best yellow (or seed) if an Australian wins the competition and 10 seed from her variegated yellow if someone from abroad wins.

A list of articles and contributions for the current year appears below and members are asked to vote for the best contribution by communicating by mail, fax or e-mail to the editor who will make the outcome known in the first newsletter of 2002.

### **Volume 10 Number 1 Autumn 2001**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Comments and suggestions about colour cover

Yellow Belgian Hybrid type clivia - *Bill Morris*

Peach and pastel clivias and their origins - *Bill Morris*

Ella van Zijl cultivars - *Toy Jennings*

A story of some Cynthia Giddy yellow clivias - *Fred van Niekerk*

Pronunciation comments - *Marion Went-Schultz*

Mole problems in the garden - *Willie Le Roux*

Advice needed on what clivias to keep - *Ian Brown*

The worm update - *Val Thurston*

The Clivia Store eCommerce Web Site - [www.clivias.com](http://www.clivias.com) - *Ken Fagher*

Questions from a beginner - *Ken Rosling*

**EXTENDING FLOWERING PERIOD IN *Clivia miniata* Regel USING COLD TREATMENT - *Craig Honiball***

**PERSONALITY PARADE - *Braam Opperman***

**BEGINNER'S LUCK - Seed viability - *Kenneth Smith***

## **Volume 10 Number 2 Winter 2001**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A prize for the most interesting article - *Pen Henry*

Orange and yellow clivia breeding - *Bill Morris*

E-mail addresses - *Joy Woodward*

Clivia disease - *Colin McLaren*

Importation of clivia plants to Australia - *Alick McLeman*

CLIVIA GARDENS - THE GARDEN OF MARGOT McNEIL - *Meg Hart*

PROMOTION OF SHOOT FORMATION IN *CLIVIA MINIATA* REGEL WITH PACLOBUTRAZOL AND PROMALIN™ - *Craig Honiball*

PERSONALITY PARADE - *Graham Duncan*

BEGINNER'S LUCK - Avoiding self- pollination - *Nick Primich*

## **Volume 10 Number 3 Spring 2001**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Interesting observation on the diet of baboons - *Loni Drager*

Methyl bromide and clivia - *Daryl Geoghegan, Jim Lykos, Judy Shevlin and Colin Haeusler*

The use of methyl bromide in the fumigation of clivia plants - *David Bearlin*

*BrithysCrini* (Fab.) (LEPIDOPTERA: NOCTUIDAE) IN AUSTRALIA: From the bush to suburbia - *Ron May*

### **2001 SHOWS**

Potgietersrus Show - 24 & 25 August 2001 - *Ernst Ferreira*

Comments on the Metro Clivia Interest Group Show - *Glynn Middlewick*

Comments on the KwaZulu-Natal Clivia Club Show - *Des Andersson*

Comments on the Northern KwaZulu-Natal Interest Group Show - *Dries Olivier*

Report on the Cape Clivia Club Show at Kirstenbosch - *Quentin Jansen*

Comments on the Eastern Cape Interest Group Show - *Willie le Roux*

BEGINNER'S LUCK - Stem splitting - *Frikkie Marais*

## **Volume 10 Number 4 Summer 2001**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Hybridising - an extract submitted by *John van der Linde*

The darker side to our common passion - *Bing Wiese*

The Mystery of the Disappearing Clivia Seeds, or Miracle Clivias - *Felicity Weedon*

PERSONALITY PARADE - *Margherita Blaser*

BEGINNER'S LUCK - Taking offshoots - *Rudo Lötter*

Please let me have you votes by the end of February. Meg Hart. Tel/Fax: (011) 646 9392 e-mail: hartrmh@mweb.co.za

## **\_\_\_\_\_ 2002 Annual general meeting**

The next AGM will be held at Kirstenbosch, Cape Town, on Saturday, 20 April 2002 at 2pm.

## 2002 Shows

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### South Africa

24 - 25 August 2002 - Potgietersrus

31st August - 1 September 2002 - Pretoria, Northern Clivia Club

6 - 8 September 2002 - International Symposium - Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu Natal Clivia Club

14 - 15 September 2002 - Johannesburg, Metro Clivia Interest Group

21 - 22 September 2002 - Cape Town (Kirstenbosch), Cape Clivia Club

21 September 2002 - Newcastle, Northern Natal Interest Group

### New Zealand

In the wake of specific Clivia shows springing up in South Africa, USA and Australia a few Kiwi Clivia enthusiasts feel that we now have the critical mass to stage a show in New Zealand. Terry Hatch has booked a venue at the Auckland Botanic Garden for the weekend of 12 - 13 October 2002. Overnight security will be organised.

Initially we plan a display type show, rather than a competitive event to show the public what the Clivia has to offer and to make plants available for purchase. At this stage Terry Hatch, Keith Hammett, Lisa Mannion and Alick McLeman have indicated that they will stage plants. Various other known Clivia enthusiasts are being approached.

I know that various other New Zealand Clivia fans subscribe to the Clivia Group. I would like to invite any of them to contact me to discuss the proposed show. My email address is: khammett@clear.net.nz

Keith Hammett

## 2002 Tours

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Shows, and beautiful clivias, can be seen in many countries, but there is only one country where one can visit the natural populations and get a feel for the micro-environments where they grow. We had a great trip before the 1998 conference, travelling from the northern (Soutpansberg) to the southern (Grahamstown) limits of habitat, and seeing populations on the way. Next year we are planning a 'caulescens trip' along the eastern escarpment from Mon 2 to Thu 5 September. Participation will be on a first-come first-served basis, with numbers limited by bus and hotel restraints. Everyone who is interested, even tentatively, should contact us privately at the address below or at [jcabel@freemail.absa.co.za](mailto:jcabel@freemail.absa.co.za)

As a foretaste, take the Virtual tour on <http://www.concentric.net/~ellipsis/Clivia>

Connie and James Abel  
89 Brampton Road,  
Lynnwood Manor, Pretoria, 0081, South Africa

Advertisements. Tariffs for advertising in the Clivia Club Newsletter:

Full page - R200,00; 1/2 page - R100,00; 1/4 page - R50,00; per line - R5,00; A4 separate page insert - R800,00; A5 separate page insert - R400,00.

(You will be sent an account from the treasurer for the appropriate amount.)

**From the Clivia Club:**

Copies of back volumes. These are available from the Secretary. Each year's back copies will cost R25,00 (US\$15.00 or equivalent).

Membership lists. Full membership lists are available from the club for R25,00 (US\$15 or equivalent).

Clivia miniata, pendulous species, hybrids and other specialities available - seed, seedlings and mature plants. Visitors welcome. Connie Abel, Pretoria, tel/fax +27-12-361.6406 or e- mail jcabel@freemail.absa.co.za

Yellow Nogqaza strains from R15 to R120. Orange from R1 to R6 mature. Delivery anywhere. SOUTH AFRICAN CLIVIA PLANTATION, Box 855, Hilton 3245. Call 082- 955 5433.

Clivia miniata F1 (yellow x orange), "pinks" and pastels, flowering size @ R12. Clivia miniata yellows, flowering size @ R150. C. miniata 'Stef's Perfume' @ R18,00. Extra for postage and packaging. Dries Bester, PO Box 75, Levubu 0929. Tel/Fax (015) 583 0299.

Clivia miniata bulk seed for sale. R100 per kilogram. Roly Strachan, Box 57, Highflats 3306 or Tel. (039) 342 385

Swamp gardenii and miniata seed and seedlings available from various Natal and Transkei locations. Phone Andrew (039) 3135024 a/h or cell 082 7845401.

IMPORTED CHINESE CLIVIA This offer is for the serious collector only. I have imported 3 different types of clivia from China. These plants are hand picked out of a few thousands of plants and I would like to offer some of these exceptional plants to the rest of the members as well. Contact Louis Swanepoel on 082 447 1177 or (011) 3911197 after 19:00

Clivia miniata : Creams, yellows, peaches, apricots, reds, pastels and polychromes. Seed, seedlings, mature plants and offsets of stock plants bred and selected over 25 years. Contact Bing Wiese, Pretoria tel/fax (012) 460 6382 to view.

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## Beginner's luck

**Taking offshoots**

Q. I have acquired a mature orange clivia that has 2 green seed pods and 2 offshoot plants that are almost the same height as mom. I want to separate the babies from mother clivia. How do I go about this without damaging any of the three and the seed pods, which I understand should be papery and dry before I harvest? BTW, got this "three for one" for a mere \$30 US at a greenhouse in East Haddam, Connecticut.

No yellow there, though. Rats.

Barbara, Connecticut

- A. Hello Barbara, the best is to wait for offshoots, these will form at the base of your plant. Let the offshoots mature before you remove them from the mother plant.

Regards, Rudo Lötter

- Q. At what point do you consider an offset mature enough to remove? How many leaves or does it need to flower before you remove it? Or how many years? to maturity? Also I have had a *miniata* self pollinated (I assume as I only had one in the back garden). It set a seed pod, but I did nothing about it .. what should I have done & when? I am now probably showing my total ignorance but as you can all tell I am a raw novice too.

Keira

- A. Hallo Keira, an offset will be mature and ready for removal once it reaches about the same height as the mother plant. The offset will grow twice as fast if it remains attached to the mother plant. If removed too soon, it will grow very slowly. Not all *clivia* are self sterile. I also have some plants that set seed by themselves, but in my opinion the majority in my collection produce very little or no seed when selfed.

Regards, Rudo Lötter



\_\_\_\_\_ On the compo

So much talk about passions! And all this nonsense about registering *clivia* cultivars - they all taste the same, so why so much fuss about it?! Anyway, Ken Smith is looking for work to do and wants your cultivar names. Please don't forget to vote for the best contribution to the newsletter this year.

Lily Borer (*Brithys pancratii* from South Africa and *Brithys crini* from Australia!)



## CLIVIA SOCIETY AND CLUB COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman : John Winter, PO Box 53219, Kenilworth, 7745.  
Tel/Fax H (021) 671 7422, Cell 082 575 7202

Secretary: Joy Woodward, NBG Kirstenbosch, P/Bag X7, Claremont 7735  
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### Club Representatives

Cape Ian Brown, Mick Dower, Charl Coetzee  
Northern Chris Vlok, Lena van der Merwe, Louis Swanepoel  
KwaZulu-Natal Sean Chubb

### CLIVIA CLUBS

Cape Clivia Club: NBG Kirstenbosch, P/Bag X7, Claremont 7735  
Chairman : John Winter, Tel/Fax H (021) 671 7422, Cell 082 575 7202  
Secretary : Joy Woodward (address details above)

Northern Clivia Club : PO Box 74868, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040  
Chairman : Tino Ferero, Tel (012) 546 6385  
Secretary : Lena van der Merwe, Tel (012) 804 8892/1899, e-mail nclivia@mweb.co.za

KZN Clivia Club :  
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# *A Celebration of Clivias*

## 2002 CONFERENCE & CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

The KZN Clivia Club invites you to participate in the

### **FIRST EVER**

## *South African Championship Show*

In conjunction with

## *The National Clivia Conference*

International guest speakers, local tours, visits to local indigenous clivia populations and much more ...

### **AUCTION**

Auction of select clones. Do you have some to sell?

### **PLAN AHEAD**

Prepare your plants, bring them along ...

### **AND WIN**

The First "South African Champion" Award!

*Visit us in KwaZulu-Natal - Clivia Country - in September 2002*

For more details please visit our website: [www.cliviakzn.co.za](http://www.cliviakzn.co.za)

*For further information*

### **CONFERENCE**

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### **CONFERENCE DATE**

Friday 6th September

*For further information*

### **SHOW**

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### **SHOW DATES**

Sat 7th & Sun 8th September

**Venue: Royal Agricultural Showgrounds, Pietermaritzburg**

