

Volume 11 Number 4 Summer 2002

CLIVIA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

CLIVIA SOCIETY, PO Box 74868, Lynwood Ridge, 0040, South Africa

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

EDITORIAL

A vibrant and robust Clivia Society enters its second decade and continues to expand and attract new members from all corners of the globe. Much of the development is to be seen in the formation of regional branches of the society with most of South Africa being represented by these. The Free State is about to launch their Interest group. The Society's development in New Zealand advanced further with the first Clivia Exhibition in Auckland in September. As far as Clivia Society business is concerned, there is a Judges Report, a request from the Research committee for ideas for research on Clivia and a reminder that photos and articles are required for the next Yearbook, Clivia 5, and a request for photographs with descriptions for the Newsletter cover and for a slide collection that Koos Geldenhuys is trying to assemble.

Spring in South Africa was the season for a number of very successful trips, shows, and gatherings which have been chronicled and which attracted great interest from the general public and at which a number of successful sales were contracted. The highlight of the season was the Clivia Conference at the Royal Show Grounds in Pietermaritzburg with local and international participants. A successful Clivia Auction took place at this event with plants that showed the extent of the development of the various species. Also at the conference, and to celebrate the first decade of the Clivia Society, founder members were honoured for their contributions. Bill Morris was proposed for honorary membership, and as this newsletter does not have a personality profile, Bill Morris features instead. He is one of the more prolific contributors to the newsletter.

There are some very interesting papers in this newsletter. Claude Felbert has described the backgrounds to the photographs depicted on the covers. Through an old article in a South African newspaper submitted by Fred van Niekerk, interesting light has been thrown on the source of some Nakamura Yellows and Wessel Lötter describes the genetics of these plants. Other local contributions are from the Cape: Mick Dower gives some background to illustrations in Clivia 4; Ian Brown describes experiments on early flowering and John van der Linde has another article on 'Early names associated with Clivia'. Jim Shields from the USA describes growing Clivia in cold climates in part one of two articles. Our thanks for these contributions.

Topics of interest have been discussed on the Clivia Enthusiasts Chat Group but space does not permit publication in this issue. Computer images of show winning specimens continue to bring interest and pleasure to those who have not been present at shows and have not seen the plants at first hand. Space has also precluded the listing of show results. These are in a separate booklet this year. Comments on some of the shows are given, but one cannot describe the camaraderie, dedication and work done by those participating. Well done to all of those taking part.

So ends another Clivia year. May this Clivia craze continue to thrive and may we continue to learn about and care for this beautiful species.

Meg Hart.

FROM THE COMMITTEES

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Since I am well aware that there are many contributions for this last newsletter of 2002, I will try to keep my contribution short. I promised Val Thurston that I would share with our readers the story behind an attempted jacket theft during the conference, but because of the volume of news, I have been let off the hook.

Thank you, all club and interest group members, for your initiative, dedication and pure hard work which made the Clivia Conference, the National Championship Show, the Clivia auction and all the regional shows possible. You have set standards to be proud of. Well done New Zealand - Keith Hammett and his committee apparently did everything right and succeeded in attracting well over a 1 000 visitors to the first ever Clivia exhibition in New Zealand.

Congratulations to three very special people. The management committee of the Clivia Society resolved during a meeting at the Pietermaritzburg conference that Bill Morris, Wessel Lötter and Fred Gibello be made honorary members. (This can only be done once certain formalities making provision for honorary members have been made to the constitution. Changes to the constitution will be addressed at the 2003 AGM. Please gentleman, be patient for a couple of months.)

A decision was taken to issue certificates to founder members of the Clivia Club who, after 10 years, are still associated with the Clivia Society either as an associate member or as a member of a Clivia Club. Nick Primich, the founder of the Clivia Club received his certificate at the prize giving held during the conference. Nick also announced the names of the other recipients. They are:

- Ron May, Bill Morris, Ken Smith, Kevin Walters (Australia), Yoshikazu Nakamura (Japan), Dr. Keith Hammett (New Zealand), Sir Peter Smithers (Switzerland), Dave Casebier (USA)
- Lien Joubert, Laila van Heerden, Celia Jansen van Vuuren (Northern Clivia Club)
- Dr. C Barker, Jim Holmes, Claerwen Howie and Dr Piet Vorster (Cape Clivia Club)
- Howard Cook, Denise & Russel Currie, Michael Stevenson (Natal Clivia Club)
- Fred Gibello and Mary Lynne Lubke (Eastern Province Clivia Club)

Please remember that:

- The team responsible for Yearbook 5 awaits articles and photographs. Photographs and articles should be forwarded to Claude Felbert before 31 December - see Volume 11 No 3 Spring 2002 for address details and guidelines.
- The Research Committee awaits proposals regarding funding of Clivia research projects. Suggestions should be forwarded to Prof Hannes Robbertse. His address details are: e-mail: probbert@postino.up.ac.za, Telephone: +27 12-803 3964 (h); +27 12-420 3665 (w); +27 12-420 4120 (fax) Postal address: 167 Astrid Street, Meyerspark, 0184, South Africa

- Clivia cultivar names and descriptions should be forwarded to Ken Smith before 31 December 2002 so that he can finalise the list of named Clivias. Ken's address is: 593 Hawkesbury Road, Winmalee NSW 277, Australia. He can also be contacted at cliviasmith@hotmail.com

A word of thanks to each and everyone who contributed to the newsletters of 2002. Meg, you did an excellent job. Thank you to the members of the Clivia Society for their valuable inputs and constructive criticism. Allow me a special word of thanks to Lena van der Merwe and Bossie de Kock for their support, enthusiasm and dedication to their tasks. We wish the Yearbook team good luck with their preparation of Yearbook 5.

On behalf of the Clivia Society I wish all our members a blessed festive season.

Clivia greetings
Chris Vlok

MEETING OF THE JUDGES

At the request of the Management Committee of the Society, delegate judges of the South African Clubs as well as some overseas judges met on Sunday 8 September during the Kwazulu Natal Conference and Show.

The following judges were present:

Henriette Stroh (Cape), Ken Smith (Australia), Harold Koopowitz and James Comstock (USA), Charl Coetzee (Eastern Cape), Sean Chubb (KZN), Koos Geldenhuys and Tino Ferero (Northern CC).

The meeting decided to consider the following matters in principle:

1. Should the same show rules apply at shows held under the auspices of the Society?
2. Should judging standards be standardised?
3. Should classes be standardised?
4. Should the training, testing and accrediting of judges be standardised?

The following was unanimously decided:

1. Show Rules
That show rules be standardised for all shows held under the auspices of the Society.
2. Standards of Judging
That standards for judging clivias be standardised so as to simplify training and testing of judges, and to assist judges when judging at shows.
3. Classes at Shows
That classes should be standardised.

4. Training and Accrediting of Judges

That rules should be drawn up for the training, testing and accrediting of judges and that only suitably accredited judges be allowed to judge at shows held under the auspices of the Society.

WAY FORWARD

All the above should be regarded as steps in a dynamic process that will be changed and adapted as experience teaches.

Harold Koopowitz and Ken Smith have taken copies of the present show rules, classes and judging standards of the various Clubs to analyse and recommend changes, if necessary.

Thereafter the Judges Committee of the Society, consisting of the delegates from the Clubs and representatives from overseas, will prepare a draft concept of show rules, classes, judging standards and regulations for the training and accrediting of judges.

This draft will then be handed to the Management Committee for further attention and finalisation.

TINO FERERO

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Clivia Society has funds available to support research. It was proposed that the money be given to the NBI Research Centre, Kirstenbosch for continuing the DNA research (see their report in Clivia 4). The view of the research committee is that although they acknowledge the importance of the DNA research, they doubt whether the bulk of the members, who are not academics, will really benefit from the work. The feeling expressed by the committee is that most of the Clivia Society members are interested in “bread and butter issues which may be of direct benefit in growing better and healthier plants”. They felt that the Clivia Society is therefore not the appropriate organisation to support the DNA research project and that it should rather have its own list of potential research projects that would benefit members. The research committee therefore invites all members to inform them of problems they would like to have solved. They will then draw up a list of potential research projects, consult members regarding these proposals and then decide on the projects to be funded.

To help members to get started a few possibilities are listed:

- Physiological problems like leaf browning, especially leaf tip browning
- Bacterial and fungal diseases
- Out-of –season flowering (inflorescences remaining in leaf axils)
- The ‘ideal’ growing medium
- The ‘ideal’ fertilising programme.

Hannes Robbertse (probbert@postino.up.ac.za)
Piet Vorster (pjvor@sun.ac.za)
Bing Wiese
John Winter (capeclivia@ibox.co.za)

YEARBOOK COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER COVERS

The proposal to print covers for the Newsletters with photographs of clivia was motivated largely on the basis that the editor of the Newsletter would be provided with information on those clivia, which would make the newsletters even more interesting for its readers.

Printing covers with photographs is too costly unless it is done in conjunction with the printing of the Yearbook. This means that the Yearbook must be printed by July with covers for each of the four following quarterly Newsletters.

Claude Felbert dealt in the last (Spring 2002) Newsletter with what photographs qualify for printing. The decision to print Newsletter covers with photographs was taken at a late stage in the preparation of printing Yearbook 4. We therefore had to make do with the photographs which had been sent to us. This meant that we had to use “second best” photographs as the best ones were selected for the Yearbook. It has also transpired that the clivia in some of the photographs chosen do not really have a “story” behind them.

We have also learnt that we cannot rely on the printers to produce an accurate replica in colour of the design submitted to them. The cover on this Newsletter is a very “washed out” version of David Davidson’s design, apparently because of the different paper and printing process used. We will ensure that this does not happen next time round.

To ensure that the covers provide as much added interest as possible, everybody is invited to submit photographs of their interesting clivia, with names, full descriptions, the story behind their discovery, breeding and growing, and their proven (or motivated probable) breeding potential. The photographs should preferably comply with Claude’s guidelines, and be on disc in high resolution TIFF format. Provided the story is interesting enough, we will do what we can with slides or glossy prints, especially if they are in sharp focus.

When choosing photographs for the covers we will then be able to have proper regard not only to the quality of the photographs and plants, but also to interesting information about them.

As I will probably be in Australia in March and David Davidson will be preparing for Chelsea in April, we are planning to publish CLIVIA 5 soon after the end of February 2003. All entries for covers must therefore reach us by the end of January 2003.

E-MAIL TO jdower@iafrica.com or accolade@ibox.co.za

POST TO Mick Dower, 4 Bishops court Drive, Claremont, 7708
South Africa
Or to Cape Clivia Club, P O Box 53219, Kenilworth 7745
South Africa.

Mick Dower

BILL MORRIS MOTIVATION FOR HONORARY MEMBER OF THE CLIVIA SOCIETY

Fifteen or more years ago, when I first made contact with Bill Morris, there was next to no clivia activity in South Africa. Bill, with Kevin Walters and Ken Smith helped me with much primary knowledge of clivia cultivation as well as supplying me with yellow seeds, which no South African was willing or able to do.

When the idea came to me to form the Clivia Club on a postal basis, these three gentlemen were there to aid me with articles. Bill has been the most prolific writer for the newsletter. He has many pages of good botanical and horticultural information under his belt. He has devoted his life to plant breeding, and most of that in later years to the yellow and peach type of clivia.

If you page through his articles, you will soon see that they are based on a scientific approach to his methods of plant breeding. He attempts to tie his results to a theoretical development that he has attempted to form for the behaviour of clivia in various breeding situations. One must also remember that he works with only a limited number of plants in Australia, and does not have a wide access to the gene pool that we have here. Very few of our members have condescended to write articles for our newsletter, and I know many who are capable of doing this but choose not to contribute. Here is a man who writes his articles out in longhand in a clear and legible manner.

If any one was ever worthy of being made an Honorary Member of The Clivia Society, then it is he. I am convinced that no one can raise a single objection against this. **HIS WORK SPEAKS FOR ITSELF!**

Nick Primich

Additional information in support of Honorary Membership for BILL MORRIS

I first contacted Bill Morris in 1988, (25th October to be exact), as part of my research into Clivia for my university studies. I was able to visit Bill soon after, and the discussion and the chance to see his collection proved to be immensely valuable to me. I am still learning from Bill. The work that Bill has put into developing a strain of yellow Clivia is well known. Indeed, Bill is interested in a range of plants and a visit or discussion with Bill is always interesting and enjoyable. He is a true plantsman. He is always willing to share his knowledge and I have received many phone calls from new

Clivia Society members attesting to Bill's helpful advice. He cheerfully promotes the hobby of Clivia cultivation.

Bill is a problem solver and he is most interested in learning by doing. His collection of Clivia plants contains material from breeders around the world. This material is used to help understand the complexities of Clivia forms and their breeding, and the information is readily shared with others via the Society newsletter.

I wholeheartedly support the motion to induct Bill Morris to the status of Honorary Member of the Clivia Society.

Kenneth Smith.

STORIES BEHIND THE PHOTOGRAPHS - VOL.11 NO. 4 SUMMER 2002

Photo No. 1 – Front Cover - ‘Vermaak Red’

Louis Swanepoel obtained a sucker of “Vermaak Red” from Ian and Geraldine Vermaak at George in March 2001. It flourished – so much so that he showed it at the Northern Clivia Club Show in September 2001. This is a photograph taken at that show. It was awarded first prize and judged ‘Section Winner’ in the ‘Miniata Dark Orange/Red Narrow Petal’ section.

Ian was a Springbok tennis player who farmed with sheep and dairy cattle at Mooi River in Natal. Geraldine has an inborn love of flora. She kept a showpiece garden on the farm and Ian nurtured her interest in orchids by building her a fibreglass house to protect them against the cold in winter when the temperature would drop to minus 6-8 degrees centigrade.

This was some 20 years ago. Geraldine also bought a then very rare yellow Miniata from Mrs. Watkins who had offered them for sale in the Pietermaritzburg newspaper. However, she was just as impressed by the reddest Clivia which she had ever seen and which she spotted at the back of a plant stall “with the tea things” where Clivia were being sold at the Natal Witness Garden Show in Pietermaritzburg. She does not know who ran the stall but suspects that it was Cynthia Giddy. That Clivia was “not for sale” but Geraldine eventually persuaded the owner to sell it to her for R12.50 - a princely sum for a plant in those days. The Vermaaks retired to George in 1992 and Geraldine took her orchids and Clivia with her.

Ian's own interest in Clivia was stimulated by the Clivia Show which Fred Gibello organised in George in 1997. They met John Winter, Christo Lötter and Mick Dower there and Geraldine invited them to see the tub of Clivia “as red as Lifebuoy soap” which were flowering at their home. John was very pleased to accept the offer of a sucker but the pot had to be broken to remove it.

Ian then took over the Clivia and left the orchids to Geraldine. His shade houses are perfect examples of good orderliness and cleanliness. A year later Ian formed an Interest Group at George. Geraldine has since become a Clivia show judge.

“Vermaak Red” became known as one of the reddest oranges available. The cover picture does not do its rich colour justice. It has upwards of 20 florets on an umbel but it does have the drawback of so many of the redder Miniata in that the flowers do not open wide. It suckers readily.

Louis Swanepoel has found that it's selfed seedlings have broader leaves with flowers that open wider, but that their colour is not as red.

Photo No. 2 - Back Cover

Linda Botha won a prize with this plant in the ‘Shorter than 25 cm. rounded –tip leaf variegated Miniata not in flower’ section at the Cape Clivia Club Show in 2001.

In 2000 she and her husband Johan took over a number of variegated Daruma from Charl Malan which had been badly sun burnt. Charl had grown them from Nakamura seed.

It is a good example of how well an ailing Clivia will respond to a good plant hospital and a lot of tender loving care.

Photo No. 3 - Back Cover

Gert Esterhuizen bred this plant. It was awarded a first prize and judged the ‘Section Winner’ in the ‘Clivia Miniata Cream Broad Petal’ section at the Northern Clivia Club Show in 2001.

Gert purchased a yellow Miniata in flower from Christo Lötter in 1992. Christo had bred it by pollinating Kirstenbosch Supreme (the best orange Miniata bred at Kirstenbosch which selfs 40% yellow) with C2, Christo's best yellow.

Gert selfed that plant, planted the seed in 1993 but kept only the three green-stemmed seedlings. This plant was the best of those.

It is interesting to speculate how the pigmented seedlings would have turned out? A seedling bred by John Winter from Kirstenbosch Supreme, pollinated with Noyce's Sunburst, was ‘Best Pastel’ at the Cape Clivia Club Show in 2001 when it first flowered, and ‘Reserve Champion’ at the 2002 Show!

Photo No. 4 - Back Cover

Pieter Van Rooyen showed this plant at the KZN Club 2001 Show, where it won First Prize in the ‘Miniata Pastel’ section.

Pieter grew it from seed collected in the wild in the Kranskop area. He says there is a remarkable colour range in the Miniata growing near Kranskop - in one kloof they are nearly blood red. Pinks and pastel flowers, and flowers with green throats are also found with *C. gardenii* growing amongst the Miniata. However, no natural hybrids have been found.

He has also found yellow Gardenii nearby with prominent green flower tips changing to yellow and remaining yellow as they age. They also have yellow fruit.

Photo No. 5 - Back Cover

Bertie Guillaume grew this multipetal from seed bred by Yoshikazu Nakamura. Seed from this multipetal has produced a variety of colour forms for Bertie, including a rich peach and an orange/red with a white centre.

Bertie has cross-pollinated his multipetals, but in doing so has rejected those which have only one or two multipetal florets in the flower head.

Claude Felbert.

CORRESPONDENCE

The source of 'Nakamura Yellows'?

I discovered an article about yellow clivia in a cutting from an old copy of *DIE BURGER*, dated Saturday 19 February 1994. which may be of interest to Clivia Society members. I trust that you will be able to use this for your Newsletter.

It appeared in a weekly column written by the late Prof. Kristo Pienaar, 'Vra vir Kristo [Ask Kristo]. I translated the extract which refers to the yellow clivia and it appears below.

I have received a most interesting letter from one of our best-known Cycad growers, Cynthia Giddy from Umlaas Road in Natal, regarding the yellow *Clivia* (*Vra vir Kristo*, 13 November). I have a copy of her popular book *Cycads of South Africa*. She has been growing clivia for many years, especially the yellow variety.

She obtains 25% yellow seedlings when she crosses F₁ (first generation) plants with each other. Nakamura from Japan buys her whole yellow crop. Japan is evidently the world leader in clivia-improvement and they ensure that this South African plant consistently grows in popularity.

Cynthia requests that we South Africans should encourage the improvement of our plants – the sooner the better. Thank you Cynthia for the invitation to visit you when your *Clivia* hybrids are flowering. Perhaps I will come.

There is also a photograph with a caption which states “Cynthia Giddy the cycad expert has written to us about the expensive and much sought after yellow *Clivia miniata* var. *citrina*. Read about how you can breed this bulbous plant.”

Fred van Niekerk.
1 October 2002

DIE BURGER is a Cape Town daily newspaper published in Afrikaans. This cutting undoubtedly solves much mystery surrounding the “Giddy Yellows” and how they were propagated and to whom they were distributed. There were rumours that Cynthia only exported offsets of her famous yellow clivias. Here is proof that she also exported seedlings to Yoshikazu Nakamura, one of the best known growers in Japan. I wonder how many of us who have obtained seed from Nakamura have ‘Giddy yellow’ genes in our yellows!

Thank you for throwing light on this mystery. Editor.

Further comment on these Yellows

During 1984, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens received a Yellow Clivia from the late Cynthia Giddy. Crosses from this plant with the Kirstenbosch Yellow (Group I) produced Orange offspring only. In *Veld and Flora* of September 1985 Graham Duncan described Giddy’s plant and named it ‘Natal Yellow’ (vide *Grow Clivias* by Graham Duncan, page 20). Tino Ferero who obtained the same information from Cynthia Giddy herself confirmed this. She told him that she had collected the plant in the Baynesfield area. Further, that the plant has impressive and beautiful flowers but did not produce yellow flowering offspring from the seed (vide Newsletter Volume 7 Number 3 July 1988).

In “Die Burger” of 19 February 1994, Giddy wrote to the late Prof. Christo Pienaar that when she crossed the F₁ Orange offspring from her Yellow plant with each other, 25% yellows were produced. This percentage would be correct if Giddy’s ‘Natal Yellow’ had been pollinated by an Orange plant. It is not known when she received her other yellows as mentioned by Tino in the same Newsletter. If Giddy crossed a Natal Yellow with a Group I Yellow, the percentage F₂ Yellow offspring would have been much higher (43.75% to be exact), vide my article in *Clivia Yearbook* 1998.

Some years ago Norman Weitz bought a Yellow Clivia from Giddy. I noticed that this plant was not a Group I Yellow as it had a red streak on one of its petals and the berries were Yellow and Pink. Cross-pollination with Natal Yellow proved that this was a second clone of the Natal Yellow Genotype which is Group II. All the seedlings were unpigmented. Some flowered this season and were indeed yellow. For identification purposes I named these plants ‘Natal Yellow “A”’ (vide Newsletter Volume 6. No. 1 January 1997). It is now clear that there is only one ‘Natal Yellow’ and that the second clone would be an F₂ offspring from her ‘Natal Yellow’. Although Giddy exported most

of these yellows to Nakamura, there must be more of F₂ Group II Yellows in this country. The identification symbols “A” and “B” could therefore now be dropped.

It is amazing that Giddy found a Group II Yellow in KwaZulu Natal as all the other Group II Yellows were collected in the Eastern Cape – i.e. ‘Transkei Yellow’ (Tsolo) and ‘Port St. Johns Yellow’. ‘Pat’s Gold’ which is also a Group II is an F₂ generation from Kirstenbosch (Yellow x ‘Natal Yellow’).

The fourth named Group II Yellow, namely ‘Floradale Yellow’ was bought from a nursery in East London, but its origin in the wild is unknown.

Wessel Lötter.
4 October 2002

Wessel has competently explained the genetics of the Natal yellow and its relationship with other yellows. Perhaps DNA tests will be the final proof one-day. Editor.

Ovary Colour

In his article on *Clivia mirabilis* in CLIVIA FOUR (page 9) John Rourke has noted that the deep orange-red colour of its pedicels and ovaries changes to green after the flowers are successfully pollinated.

Some of the pedicels and ovaries of Ian Brown’s *C. nobilis* also have this characteristic. The ovaries of the Transkei miniata ‘Komgha Red’ which grows in the Kei River and in its tributaries can also be red before they are pollinated.

Other miniata such as ‘Floradale Apricot’ (which should really be called ‘Floradale Peach’ because its flower is much the same colour as the ‘Tipperary Peaches’ illustrated in Photograph 31 in the same Yearbook), have green pedicels but yellow ovaries which turn green after pollination.

This phenomenon can be very helpful when breeding with a plant such as ‘Floradale Apricot’ which produces varying percentages of green-stemmed seedlings depending on the pollen (from other peaches and from Group I and Group II yellows) used on it.

Individual florets can be pollinated with different pollens, with the planned pollination repeated on each individual floret until one is sure it has “taken” – i.e. when the floret’s ovary changes colour.

Mick Dower.
8 October 2002

***Clivia miniata* - ‘Meier Green’**

This extraordinary green *miniata* is illustrated in Photograph 59 in CLIVIA FOUR. Hermann Meier started growing *Clivia* in his garden in Lyttleton, Pretoria, in about 1960. He now has a substantial collection.

Among them is a relatively short-leaved *miniata*. The flowers are orange with prominent green stripes in their centres. He cross-pollinated these and sowed the seed in July 1995. Two of these seedlings flowered in 1999 with green flowers as illustrated. When Hermann forced the florets open he found that the pistils were well formed. The stamens were crumpled but carried pollen sacks. He selfed one of them and it produced viable seed, and he waits in anticipation for surprise or disappointment when they flower.

Hermann gave the other plant to Peter Gray, and Peter showed it at the Northern *Clivia* Club 2001 Show where it won the 'Most Unusual Flower' section. He has used its pollen successfully on a variety of orange *miniata* and has pollinated it with an orange *miniata*.

Unlike Peter's plant, the flowers of the plant, which Hermann kept, are a little more open and have a little red colouring in them. He showed it at the Metro Show 2002 where it won the 'Most Unusual Flower' section.

In the next Yearbook Wessel Lötter will be telling us about the genetics behind the green colouring in *miniata* flowers, and how to breed with these plants.

Mick Dower.
8 October 2002

Early flowering plants

For the past few years I've been experimenting with getting *clivia* seedlings to flower after as short a period as possible. Recently I read comments from Jim Shields to the *Clivia* Enthusiasts Group and found that my experiences were very similar to his. One problem that most of us have in South Africa is that we have little if any temperature control as we're growing *clivia* outdoors. If seedlings flower after three years as opposed to four or five, one is at a huge advantage in a breeding program. Plants that are not coming up to scratch can be disposed of early, creating more space. Also, one can discontinue a line of breeding early if it isn't producing the desired standards.

Here are a few of my experiences:

For a few years I monitored selected seedlings and recorded the date when each new leaf appeared. I found that I got 3-4 leaves in year one and 5-6 in each of years two and three. I also found that a plant needed a good, strong framework of leaf and roots before it produced its first flower. This seemed to be when it had 14 or more leaves.

The first two years are critical. If a plant hasn't reached 9 or 10 leaves after two years, you're unlikely to get a flower in three. Trial and error has led me to use the following growing program:

1. Seeds are sown in September. Before then it's too cold and wet in Cape Town.
2. Use a fairly deep seed tray or pot – I find a depth of about 10cm is ideal.
3. Always use a well-drained medium. A mix of two-thirds milled bark to one-third coarse compost works well and I use this for all sized plants.
4. As soon as the seed starts to wither away, start fertilising. I alternate “Kelpak” (Seaweed Concentrate) and “Supranure” (11%N; 7,3%P; 3,7%K) weekly with occasional doses of “Chemicult” (6,5%N; 2,7%P; 13%K). All are watered on. This would be too rich in nitrogen for flowering sized plants but gets small plants to produce good leaves and roots.
5. In April I transplant the seedlings. These go two at a time into plastic bags of about the size of a 17cm pot.
6. I don't do much fertilising between May and July as it's too wet! From August I use the same fertiliser programme as for the seed trays.
7. In April (1½ years) I put the seedlings individually into 17cm or 20cm pots and leave them in these until they flower.
8. These plants are now treated like all my mature ones and are fed “Phostrogen” (14:10:27) fortnightly from August with a very occasional dose of “Chemicult”. I cut back on fertilising from November to February.
9. Of late I've put a little “Bounce-back” (chicken-manure based fertiliser) into my pots.

(Note: All the fertilisers mentioned also contain varying amounts of the other elements).

Generally one needs to produce as many leaves and roots as possible in the first two years. At flowering time each year one can check progress: hopefully 4 leaves in the first year, 9-10 in the second year and 14-16 when they flower in year three. Whatever you do, allow plenty of root space. Plants that are pot-bound in their first three years will not be strong and vigorous enough to flower.

Seed that is imported from the Northern Hemisphere can well flower here after 2½ years and should flower after 3½ years. I've already had my first flower from seed sown in this millennium. This was seed from Mike Jeans sown in April 2000.

I'd be interested in hearing the experiences of others. Happy growing.

Ian Brown
23 October 2002

Growing clivias in a cold climate. Part I. Starting Seeds under Lights

I grow Clivias in central Indiana (USA). This is in the Midwest, between the Great Lakes to the north and the Ohio River to the south. We have hot summers and cold winters: usual afternoon high temperatures in summer are 86°F (about 30° C) and this past summer our afternoons exceeded 90°F (32°C) on more than thirty days. Our hottest days do not exceed 100°F (about 38°C). In winter, we have several snowfalls each year, and

our lowest morning temperatures vary from +6°F (-14°C) to -20°F (-28°C) in our occasional very cold spells. This is U.S. Department of Agriculture cold hardiness zone .

This is not a place where Clivias are garden plants. They absolutely have to be protected indoors or in a greenhouse over winter. In summer, they do very well outdoors, so long as they are in medium to heavy dappled shade. I grow my mature Clivias outdoors in summer in our lath house, and in a home greenhouse in winter.

Clivia seeds tend to ripen around Christmas time here in Indiana, just as winter is getting a good start. That means we start them indoors during winter, along with Nerine and Haemanthus and other later-ripening seeds. While a sunny window would be a possibility, and we do have a couple of home greenhouses, neither works well for us. The sunny windowsill is a shortcut for the cat, and gets too hot on sunny days. The greenhouses are really too cool in winter for optimal starting of clivia seeds. The most satisfactory alternative that I have found is to start them indoors under fluorescent lights.

Clivia seeds kept too warm will dry out rather than germinate. Left too cold, they simply wait for nicer temperatures. I have arrived at a working temperature range for Clivia germination that seems to be satisfactory: warmer than 65°F but no warmer than 80°F (about 18°C to 26 or 27°C). I keep the young Clivia seedlings under the lights and in this temperature range for about six months. Generally, it is summer by then, and they can be moved outdoors into our lath house (probably 60 to 70% shade) for the summer.

I use a mixture of Promix™ and sand in a ratio of 2 parts Promix to 1 part sand by volume. Promix™ is a peat based soilless potting mix containing perlite and vermiculite in addition to the peat. It also shows quite a few small twigs and bits of sticks, and I suspect that there is also some fine charcoal added to it.

I plant all my especially prized seeds, one seed to a pot, in 5 ½ inch (about 14 cm) square by 5 ½ inch deep plastic pots. The seed is pressed into the surface of the potting mix, and then the pot is stood in a bucket of water to thoroughly wet all the potting soil clear to the surface. The well-wetted pot is finally set in a tray with other pots of the same lot, and the whole is moved into the light room and placed under the fluorescent lights. Initially the lights may be as low as a few inches above the seeds. As the leaves grow, the lights are raised to stay above the leaves for as long as possible.

If you want to start hundreds or thousands of Clivias from seed at one time, this approach needs to be modified. Plant the seeds from a single batch in a larger community container, such as a polystyrene foam box or tray. It should be at least 5 inches deep, and must have plenty of drainage holes in the bottom.

As we have come to grow more and more Clivias and bulbs from seed, I have had to have a wall full of shelves installed for the plant lights. They are in my computer room, which stays a bit warmer than the rest of the house all year around. There are four shelves mounted on one wall. Each shelf is 22 ½ inches deep (about 57 cm) by 9 ft 10 ½ inches long (about 3 meters), made of ½ inch plywood and supported by 2" X 4" lumber. The

vertical spacing between shelves is about 22 ½ inches. The shelves and the walls behind them and at the ends were painted with a matt white enamel latex paint to maximize light efficiency. Each shelf is illuminated by two pairs of two-tube 40-watt fluorescent tubes in shop light fixtures, for a total of eight 40-watt tubes per shelf. Each fixture is hung on chains so their heights can be adjusted as needed. Each shelf offers 18.5 square feet of space, for a total of 74 square feet (about 6.8 sq. meters) under these lights.

Pots are placed in plastic trays on the shelves under the lights. The pots are watered from below, by pouring water into the trays, to avoid washing the seeds loose from the potting medium. Fungus gnats may become a problem, and can be controlled by sprinkling granules of Marathon® on the surface and watering into the soil. The insecticide is watered into the soil by gently watering the pot from above. Marathon® contains 1% imidacloprid as the active agent. It is manufactured by Olympic Horticultural Products for the greenhouse and nursery trade in the USA.

Jim Shields, PO Box 92, Westfield, IN 46074, USA

27 October 2002

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In the next Newsletter, Part II. of 'Growing Clivias in a Cold Climate', 'Growing Seedlings On', will be published.

SOME EARLY NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH CLIVIA

NO. 2 "THE NOBLE FAMILY OF CLIVE"; WILLIAM AITON; WILLIAM HOOKER AND JOHN LINDLEY

In the early 19th Century gardening was still essentially a branch of collecting, of acquiring rare and spectacular plants, mainly for the pleasure of possessing them. There was huge interest in the new plants being imported into Britain from all over the world. There were in England alone no fewer than 10 illustrated botanical journals catering to that interest. Competition among them to be the first to publish and name new plants was fierce.

Prominent among these magazines were Curtis's Botanical Magazine (CBM) and Edwards' Botanical Register (EBR). Edwards had been trained by Curtis and was CBM's chief artist at the time he left to start up his own publication. So Curtis had good reason to want to pip EBR to the post on any new discovery.

William Hooker had become the Editor of CBM by 1828. He was a well-established botanist, later to be knighted for his services as Director of Kew Gardens. John Lindley, a younger man, was an up-and-coming botanist and Assistant Secretary to the Horticultural Society. He wrote for EBR and was later to become Editor. Both men were always on the lookout for new plants to publish and both were alerted later that year to a new plant which had recently flowered at Syon House, just across the Thames from Kew, and both duly published their work, in an unusual dead-heat, as recorded below:

“By a curious coincidence two English botanists, Lindley and Hooker, separately published on the same day in October 1828, a new genus based on the same plant. Lindley named the new genus *Clivia* and Hooker called it *Imantophyllum*... The plant in question was an introduction from the eastern Cape by Bowie and it grew in the hothouses at Kew and at Syon House, the residence of the Duchess of Northumberland. Lindley named the plant *Clivia nobilis* ... It is said that the plant described by Lindley “had been surreptitiously obtained from Kew”⁽¹⁾

Lindley wrote: “We have named this genus in compliment to her grace the Duchess of Northumberland, to whom we are greatly indebted for an opportunity of publishing it. Such a compliment has long been due to the noble family of Clive, and we are proud in having the honour of being the first to pay it.”⁽²⁾

We can understand the dedication to Lady Clive [see also ‘*Clivia*’ by Harold Koopowitz (Timber Press 2002)], but why the reference to “the noble family of Clive”? Well, it seems that Lady Clive was born into a plant-loving family. Her father, Edward Clive, First Earl of Powis (1754-1839) was a son of Robert Clive (“Clive of India”). He grew rare exotic plants and “was remarkable for his physical vigour, which he retained to an advanced age, digging in his garden in his shirtsleeves at six-o-clock in the morning when in his 80th year.”⁽³⁾ A blue blood with green fingers, as it were!

Her mother, Lady Henrietta Clive (1758-1830) discovered the plant *Caralluma umbellata* in C 1800, while in Mysore, India, with her husband. Her maiden name was Herbert, and she probably was related to Revd. William Herbert (1778-1847), a very good botanist and expert on bulbous plants, particularly amaryllids. His name is commemorated in the Herbert Medal, awarded by the International Bulb Society for meritorious work with bulbous plants. (Incidentally, Graham Duncan of Kirstenbosch, author of “How to Grow *Clivia*”, is a recent recipient of that medal.) The International Bulb Society’s publication “*Herbertia*” is named in Herbert’s honour.

The good Reverend sounds like a typical member of one of our *Clivia* Clubs! Crossbreeding gave him “an endless source of interest and amusement”, and “he thought long and hard about all aspects of the plant he wanted to create, its brilliancy of colour, its perfume, hardiness and profusion of blossom.”⁽⁴⁾ His ideas sparked off the explosion of crossbreeding during the 1830’s and 1840’s. Herbert could well have been instrumental in the acquisition of the *Clivia nobilis* at Syon House.

Now what about the name *Imantophyllum aitonii* chosen by Hooker? *Imantophyllum* means “strap or thong-like leaves”. So far so good, but not as attractive a name as *Clivia*, is it?

In using the name *Aitonii*, Hooker was being faithful to the wishes of James Bowie. Hooker records that “Mr. Bowie ... mentioned to me a *Cyrtanthus*-like plant which he had found there (the Cape) and imported, and which, if it blossomed in this country, he

desired might bear the specific name of his patron, Mr. Aiton.”⁽⁵⁾ At that time it was the custom for collectors to honour their patrons in nominating names for plants.

William T. Aiton (1766-1849) was at Kew Botanical Gardens for 52 years, and became superintendent, succeeding his father who had been Royal Gardener before him. He had been the one to employ Bowie and trained him to go out collecting plants for Kew. He was in 1804 one of the seven founders of an organisation “for the improvement of horticulture”, which was eventually to become the Royal Horticultural Society. Five of the seven were honoured by having a newly discovered genus named after them.⁽⁴⁾

So there were several good reasons why Hooker should have used Aiton’s name. However he had a problem; a genus, *Aitonia*, had already been named for Aiton senior, so that is why Hooker used *Aitonii* as the species name, after the family name he chose of *Imantophyllum*.

Initially, the two names *Imantophyllum* and *Clivia* ranked equally, but in due course *Clivia* was given precedence and Hooker’s name fell away. Hence we are today the *Clivia* Society and not the *Imantophyllum* Society – or the *Aitonii* Club!! Had the plant flowered at Kew, the use of Aiton’s name would certainly have been appropriate. But it did not flower there.

Had the plant at Syon House been “surreptitiously acquired from Kew”? Was it grown from seedlings brought back to Britain by James Bowie when he returned from South Africa in 1823, or from another importation? Who actually owned the plant, Lady Clive, or her husband, Hugh Percy, 3rd Duke of Northumberland? Were there perhaps several plants from more than one source at Syon House?

A longer article to be submitted to the Editors of the *Clivia* Yearbook will explore these questions further, including the role played by William Herbert.

I would like to thank Keith Hammett, Harold Koopowitz and Dr John Rourke, for their help in researching this article.

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- (1) Flowering Plants of Africa, August 1972
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- (3) Dictionary of British and Irish Botanists and Horticulturists.
- (4) “The Origin of Plants” by Maggie Campbell-Culver (Headline Book Publishing, 2001).
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JOHN VAN DER LINDE
1 November 2002

SHOW REPORTS

WATERBERG BOSLELIE GROEP

This Interest Group, established in November 2001, organised a private show of Clivias for its members and enthusiasts on the 9th and 10th of August of this year.

We wished to make the people of Nylstroom and its environs aware of the outstanding qualities of Clivias both as garden plants as well as for indoor decoration. Though August was really rather early in the year for Clivias, we had to tie in with the pre-arranged show dates of the larger Clivia Clubs and Interest Groups in other parts of the country.

Almost one hundred plants were submitted and we were very pleasantly surprised by the high quality and the variety of the entries. Also on show were two enormous and very beautiful arrangements of cut flowers each containing 50% Clivias which enchanted the show-goers. During the course of the two days, guidance for the successful cultivation of the Clivia was made freely available to the visitors. Unfortunately the turnout was less than we had anticipated, and this is a matter to which serious attention will be given in the future.

The second aim of the show was to teach the members of the Interest Group the ins and outs of grooming plants to bring them up to the standards required for showing. The contributions made by members of the Northern Clivia Club in this regard were extremely valuable and we wish to thank Tino, Koos, Henriette and Pikkie most sincerely for their input. With their assistance we feel we will be able to compete with the best when we venture forth into the wider world of Clivia showing. We must admit to being secretly delighted to notice that the Pretoria folk seemed quite taken aback by the quality of some of the flowers on our show!

On the 21st September 2002 the Waterberg Boslelie Groep had its second show of the year and a very successful event this proved to be as well. This time 69 plants were exhibited even including the stunning 'Bronze Green Girl' and a number of beautiful yellows. Only one category received no entries at all. The exhibition venue was abuzz with visitors for the whole of the Saturday show day and we were pleased to note that we had no less than 180 visitors. This equalled the numbers that came on the two days of the previous show which we held early in August. At this event we had a Visitors Book and we found the comments were indeed very enlightening.

The stallholders were delighted with their turnovers as they found that the holidaymakers from the nearby resorts were eager customers. When the tents were folded at 3 pm a group of very satisfied Clivia growers were already hard at work planning next year's show which they vow will be both bigger and better than the show of 2002.

We are glad to say that due to our efforts at our first ever show events, we were able to make the following donations to our favourite charities:

"Die Pos" Charity Fund	90.00
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Waterberg Retirement Village	500.00
Waterberg Old Age Home	1,190.00

Proceeds of gate money	1,780.00

Secretary
 Johan Jacobs
 8 October 2002

NORTHERN CLIVIA CLUB – 31 AUGUST & 1 SEPTEMBER

On the 30th August 2002 there was tension in the air and the atmosphere was not as tranquil as usual. The show committee had its work cut out for the day. At 09h00 the morning the first plants arrived to be benched. The exhibitors who brought their plants did not want to leave as the excitement was building up, they were looking at each other's plants and were comparing it in their minds, to see if they had any chance to win in their class.

At 13h00 the cold-faced judges under the leadership of Koos Geldenhuys scrutinised every plant. Indeed these are men and women of no mean stature. After what seemed like hours they made their decisions and the winners were announced. After the judges had finished, Peter Lambert and his team took over to photograph the winners and the runners up.

On the 31 August 2002, the day of the show, there was a hustle and bustle at 07h00 in the morning when the sellers brought their plants to sell. Stalls had been set-up the previous day and everyone got ready for the judging in deciding who had the best stall. The prize for the best stall was awarded to Athri Wessels.

Queues were forming early and when the gates opened at 09h00 am, there was a run for the hall and the sellers' stalls. Everyone wanted to see whose plants would sell the best on the show. Upon entering the hall, the customers were greeted by a magnificent display of colour and plants.

The quality of the plants on the show was excellent. Just under 5000 people attended this year's show.

Dawie van Heerden won the best on show with his entry in section 14, '*Clivia miniata* long broad leaf with flower'. The runner up was Bertie Guillaume who entered in section 9 '*Clivia miniata* any other colour' with a green throat with one umbel.

Whilst standing at the exit it was quite amusing to hear what the visitors' comments were when they left the hall. Some of them even turned around to take another glance and had a look of total disbelief in what they had just experienced inside the hall.

The sellers had a good two days at the office as visitors walked past with their newly bought Clivias on trolleys or in plastic bags and these were handled as newly acquired treasures.

In the evening we had a function where the prizes were handed over by Ken Smith from 'Down under'. He and numerous international guests gave flavour to the show.

The organisation of the show was a real team effort and the Northern Clivia Club salutes them on making such a big success of the 2002 show.

We can only say, " WOW what a show" and "We can't wait for next year".

Christo Topham, Show Coordinator

KWAZULU-NATAL CLIVIA CLUB – 7 & 8 SEPTEMBER

The first South African Championship Show hosted by the KwaZulu Natal Clivia Club was held in Pietermaritzburg in conjunction with the 2002 Clivia Conference.

The majority of the visitors to our show are members of the general gardening public and our Natal Clivia Club went to great efforts to illustrate to gardeners how Clivia's can be used in a garden setting. A large display complete with waterfall, stream and pond was set up, packed with Orange, Yellow and Peach Clivia, some very interesting and high quality plants were on display. This display also had its fair share of related and compatible indigenous plants in the form of streptocarpus, cyrtanthus, haemanthus, veltheimia, lachanalia, cycads, strelitzia and many more. This display proved to be a focal point of our show with much interest being paid to it.

A first ever, was a display of Clivia plants from locality. We were fortunate enough to have a large glass display cabinet that covered the entire one end of the hall. The plants were arranged in geographic regions. Starting with the most southern forms of *Clivia nobilis* and finally ending up with the *Clivia miniata* from Swaziland and the *Caulescens* from the Eastern Transvaal. The plants on display included: orange, peach, pink, as well as yellow forms found in habitat. A map with corresponding numbers was also on display and one could get a very good idea as to the distribution of the species as well as the variation in form of *Clivia miniata* from one area to the next. A highlight of this display was the first ever-public display of the *Clivia mirabilis*.

The show proved to be good success with plants entered from all corners of the country as well as one plant from Japan. All together there were 180 entries with all classes being well supported, most entries were in the Yellow and Orange classes. In order to obtain the views from as wide a base as possible, judges were invited to judge from all clubs as well as some international groups, namely two from the United States, one from Australia, two from the Northern Club, two from the Cape Club and two from Natal. This mix enabled the judges, in our view, to make the best possible decisions. The standard was exceptionally high and to illustrate this it was noted that in the 'yellow single umbel' class the judges selected seven plants from which the final selection was made. A plant was entered in this class that has been the overall 'Best on Show' in Natal

of two occasions and this plant was not amongst the seven plants in the final selection. It just goes to show the rate at which our clivias are improving.

Without exhibits we would not have had a S.A. Championship Show and I would like to thank all exhibitors very much for the time and effort they went to in order to display their plants. Many traveled great distances but all were in good shape on arrival and I am of the opinion that this was the best ever selection of Clivia at any one place at a given time.

A big thank you goes to all committee members, club members and friends who put in so much work to make this event happen. I certainly think that all the effort was worthwhile. My congratulations go to all award winners on their outstanding achievements. A special thank you goes to the three ladies that do so much every year for our show: namely Val Thurston, Brenda Nuss and Kim Fourie.

The sales area reported brisk business with a record number of sellers at our show. The lock-up garages proved to be perfect for sales. All seemed to be happy and a good weekend was had by all.

Sean Chubb

KWAZULU NATAL CLUB AUCTION REPORT 2002

The KZN club auction of plants during the third Clivia Congress in Pietermaritzburg was a great success. About 100 members and visitors attended and bidding was brisk and competitive during a most entertaining evening when 81 plants came under the hammer realizing a total of R91,695.00

Some of the highlights were:-

	SPECIES	DESCRIPTION/NAME	SELLER	BUYER	
1	Clivia miniata	Bertie's Bronze	B. Guillaume	J. Dana	R
2	Clivia miniata	Broad leaf Variagated	B. Guillaume	T. van den Heever	R
3	Clivia miniata	Community Pot of Citrina	R & P Bennet	P. Lambert	R
4	Clivia miniata	Ndwendwe Alpha Thurston	V. Thurston	K. Smith	R
5	Clivia miniata	Tropical Sunset x Aurea	G. Meyer	J. Walters	R
6	Clivia miniata	Gails Peach	J & G Reed	C.M. Vermaak	R
7	Clivia miniata	Original Chubb Peach Clone	S. Chubb	E. Nuss	R
8	Clivia miniata	Wittig Pink	E. Wittig	J. Walters	R
9	Clivia gardenii	Yellow	P. van Rooyen	J. Dana	R
10	Clivia caulescans	Yellow	B. Guillaume	J. Dana	R

We believe that the success of our auction was greatly enhanced because it is not an annual event. This novelty ought to be maintained in conjunction with the congress every 4 years.

Our sincere thanks to all the buyers and sellers who supported our first ever auction which would not have been possible without our auctioneer Martin Eggers and the help

and enthusiasm of our members who made this one of the many aspects of a memorable, happy and successful congress. Any clubs intending to hold their own auctions should talk to KZN first. Having done our “home work” and “paid our school fees” we will happily give them good advice.

Coenraad Vermaak and Brenda Nuss

METRO CLVIA GROUP SHOW – 14 & 15 SEPTEMBER 2002

The second annual show of the Metro group was held at the Sisulu Hall, also known as the Randburg Multipurpose Hall. This venue has a fifty by twenty-five metre area available under a single roof. The show plants were exhibited at the entrance to the hall, with the sales stalls and caterer at the back of the hall, near the exit. The exhibition area was separated from the sales area by a natural barrier of trees, plants and fountains, provided by Susan from Hadida Gardens. This helped ensure one-way traffic of people through the hall.

Accepting Louis Swanepoel’s idea of exhibiting the display plants on a lower platform, we placed the tables on thirty centimetre pots and covered the tables with green shade cloth. The resulting effect of the plants placed at a lower level, allowed the viewer to notice the umbel when walking into the hall, rather than the pot in which the plant was placed. One was also allowed to get a good overview of the umbels. The combination of all the amenities in one hall contributed to a festive atmosphere at the show. The hall also provided us with a venue that would not be affected by rain, wind or cold weather.

The numbers of exhibits this year increased to one hundred and sixty and was of a standard that drew many compliments from the Clivia members and public alike. Benching of the plants took place on Friday afternoon the 13 September and was efficiently performed by Elroy Janse van Vuuren. Judging of the plants took place in the evening. The chief judge was Koos Geldenhuys helped by his senior judges, Tino Ferero and Louis Swanepoel and the rest of his panel. Placing of the plants in the correct classes was the unenviable back-breaking task of Sarel Naude.

The plant judged the ‘Best on Show’ was that of Pikkie Strumpher. This was a superb red *Clivia miniata* with a large full head of florets. The ‘Second Best on Show’ was that of Ernie Hobbs. His magnificent large yellow *Clivia miniata* had a round umbel with not a space between the florets. Pikkie Strumpher also exhibited the ‘Third Best on Show’. The florets of this plant were orange with green throats and this novel colour drew many compliments.

Other exhibits that stood out were the broad leaf plants of Dawie van Heerden which were exceptionally well groomed by his wife. Tino Ferero’s display of interspecific hybrids showed us the enormous potential there is in the interspecific arena. Susan Kruger made excellent use of the Clivia as the main flower in a floral arrangement. The stalls were a hive of activity during the show and the stall of Louis Swanepoel and Keith

Rose was judged the most attractive. The Clivia paintings, landscapes in acrylic and oil, of Elsabe Falcke, complimented the exhibits on the tables.

The prize giving was held on the Saturday evening with a good spread of snacks provided by our caterer Tertius Barnard. The attendance at the show was down from the previous year, which is disappointing and can be attributed to various factors. This however provides the future organizing committee with a challenge for the next show. The show ended at 15h00 on Sunday and a word of thanks must go to those that helped clean up after the show.

Glynn Middlewick.
Chairman Metro Clivia.

EASTERN PROVINCE 2002 SHOW COMMENTS- 28 & 29 SEPTEMBER

‘Awesome’, ‘fantastic’, ‘excellent’, ‘marvelous’, ‘breathtaking’, were only a few of the comments expressed by a record crowd attending our show. They entered through a beautiful and informative display by Nature Conservation to be greeted by a hall full of striking Clivia plants with colourful blooms, highlighted by the “Best on Show” and “Runner-up” displayed on a special table.

The “Best on Show” was awarded to Charl Malan’s stunning eye-catching ‘Vico Yellow’ with extra large yellow flowers. He grew the plant from seeds he obtained from Nakamura during 1995. The plant was also awarded the same title at our very first show in 2000. Congratulations Char!!! It is indeed an excellent specimen to be proud of.

The ‘Runner-up to Best on Show’ was awarded to André Calitz’s striking and well presented Orange Belgian Hybrid which he originally obtained from a nursery in East London some seven years ago. Congratulations André!! Plants of this quality are indeed an inspiration to other growers.

Sean Chubb, Charl Coetzee and myself did judging with learner judges Gideon Botha, Mark Joubert and Len Stratford.

A big thanks you to Sean and his lovely wife Terry for coming all the way from KZN. It was a real pleasure to have had you sharing in our show.

We had 1340 visitors to our show, all thanks to an all-out advertising campaign. Striking posters depicting various coloured Clivia in bloom (the brain-child of Gideon Botha who was also responsible for obtaining sponsorship from local businesses for the printing of the posters) were displayed in shop windows, at nurseries, cafeterias, on vehicle windows and any other place imaginable throughout the Eastern Province. Thanks to Mark Joubert and Gideon this was excellently supported by repeated advertisements/photos in newspapers and continuous reminders on Radio Algoa. Charl Coetzee and Bobbie Webber were also responsible for reminders by Radio R.S.G

We displayed 121 plants of excellent quality under 32 categories despite the fact that some of our major growers did not display at all, or only a few plants due to rain and wind damage. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you all who entered show plants. Without you there would not have been a show.

A big thanks you to our Secretary Len Stratford who worked until the early hours of Saturday to print the winner's certificates.

Our first "Beginners" table was unfortunately poorly supported but we are positive that with the necessary motivation we will have a bumper entry next year.

We enrolled 16 new members for the remaining part of this year plus a further 16 with effect from January 2003

Our Clivia show is fast becoming one of the major shows in the Province and it's wonderful success can only be attributed to the support we received from our sponsors, Greenfingers, Servi-star, P.E.B. Printers and Rhino Plastic, the public (we also had visitors from surrounding towns and as far-a-field as Pretoria, Welkom, Douglas, Tarkastad, Cradock, Mosselbay and Hartenbos) Radio Algoa, Radio RSG, The Herald, Weekend Post, The Burger and Algoa Sun. Also our friends Ian Brown, Gert Wiese, Pat Gore, Lena v/d Merwe, Ulrich Landman, Fred Gibello, Len Stratford, Welland Cowley, Charl Malan, Vesta Gair, Sean Chubb, Pieter van Rooyen, Tino Ferero, Etzel & Brenda Nuss who all generously donated seeds for our sought after "Starter packs", Charl Coetzee for donating yellow seedlings to each new member, Mark Joubert, Welland Cowley, Charl Malan, Jan Blumenthal, Wim Botma, Andrè Calitz and Johan Mostert for donating plants to raffle, to Mr. Oosthuizen of the Verkenner School and last but not least our Committee and other volunteers for all the prior arrangements and hard work during the show. Please rest assured that without your support our show would not have been such an outstanding success.

A special thank you to Cynthia and Ronel who managed the kitchen. The 'eaties' and 'drinkies' were excellent.

Willie le Roux

Chairman.

NEW ZEALAND CLIVIA EXHIBITION

The First New Zealand Clivia Exhibition was held on the weekend of 12 and 13 October at the Auckland Botanic Garden. This proved to be a very happy event enjoyed by participants and visitors alike. A small steering committee was formed about a year ago to plan the event. People involved were Lisa Mannion, Alick McLeman, Terry and Pam Hatch, Keith Hammett and staff from the Botanic Garden. Alick, Terry and Keith had had experience of South African Clivia Shows, which was a considerable help, plus the encouragement received from fellow Clivia enthusiasts around the world. Our initial

aims were deliberately modest, basically we wanted to alert the public to the range of Clivias now available in New Zealand and to make plants available to potential enthusiasts.

We produced a schedule of classes for exhibition, but specifically made this non competitive. As almost all the people who exhibited were experienced exhibitors in other areas, the standard of plants and presentation was good and we achieved a very good range of plants to show the uninitiated. Equally important, the enthusiasts were able to compare similar plants side by side.

Although all the organisers were based in Auckland we were able to communicate with known enthusiasts in other parts of New Zealand, some of who traveled long distances to bring plants to display. Jeff Kofoed brought a plant, wrapped in a large tube, from the South Island on a commercial flight to attend the show. Remember, that although we opened a bank account in the name of the New Zealand Clivia Club the exhibition was the first opportunity we had to garner members and the Club has yet to have its inaugural meeting.

A poster display was mounted which showed the various Clivia species, including John Rourke's *C. mirabilis*; what people are doing in other countries and where Clivia breeders are taking the plant. A floral display was mounted showing the use of Clivia flowers, leaves and berries.

Seven sales stands made a wide range of Clivia plants and seed available to future enthusiasts and Peter Arthur of Touchwood Books offered a range of Clivia and other horticultural literature for sale.

Workshops were staged throughout the two days. These were a great success and all speakers held the attention of keen audiences. Terry Green brought a video showing recent activities in and around Toowoomba in Australia.

Robert Mannion currently operates as a public relations consultant and we were fortunate to get excellent coverage in magazines, newspapers and radio prior to the show. A consequence was around 1200 people paying \$2NZ each [about 10 Rand] to visit. This plus a 10% levy on sales made at the show has provided a sound financial basis for the nascent New Zealand Clivia Club.

Possibly the most exciting aspect for me was the interest shown in the Clivia by a number of young people. This is a welcome contrast to so many other areas of recreational horticulture where only older people are involved. It was also wonderful to have enthusiasts and Nurserymen specifically come to New Zealand from Australia and take an active part in the show.

It was a great start and the show had a wonderful spirit that I know from experience will be difficult to recapture. At a time when many flower shows are turning into garden design and life style shows it was good to realize that most of the people who attended

were keen plants people. Equally it means that we have a lot yet to do to reach the bulk of the public, who if they know the Clivia at all, they are familiar with only the ordinary, albeit beautiful, species *C. miniata* which has been in New Zealand for over 100 years.

Keith Hammett. Auckland. New Zealand.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Vrystaat Clivia Belangegroep (Free State Clivia Interest Group)

An Interest Group has been founded in The Free State. 30 People were present.

Management committee:

Management coordinator - Piet Laubscher, Tel. (051) 522 8963 .

Secretary - Pearl Snowdowne

Treasurer - Hennie van der Mescht

A meeting will be held on 18 January 2003

Hennie van der Mesch

KwaZulu Natal Clivia Club

Annual General Meeting	Saturday 25 January 2003
Mini Gardenii Show	Saturday 10 May 2003
KZN Show	Saturday/Sunday 13/14 September 2003
Newcastle Show	Saturday/Sunday 20/21 September 2003
Mini One-day Kloof Show	Saturday 4 October 2003

Val Thurston

2003 Show dates

Metro Group	30-31 August 2003
Northern Clivia Club	6-7 September 2003
KwaZulu Natal Clivia Club	6-7 or 13-14 September
Cape Clivia Club	13-14 September
Eastern Province Clivia Club	27 28 September 2003

FOR SALE

Advertisements. Tariffs for advertising in the Clivia Society Newsletter:

Full page - R200,00; half page - R100,00;

Quarter 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.)

Clivia miniata, pendulous species, hybrids and other specialties 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 for mature plants. 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. Seed R100 per kilogram. Year old plants R2 each. Roly Strachan, Box 57, Highflats 3306 or Tel. (039) 835 0085 evenings only.

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

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.

Bargain deal: I am looking for a partner in Gauteng area. I supply ± 10 000 seedlings and mature plants of improved hybrid stock. You supply the space and care. Stock currently in Pretoria. Contact Jakes Naude at 039 975 3875 for further detail.

From the Clivia Society:

Back volume copies of the yearbooks and newsletters (since 1992) are now available at reduced prices to overseas members. South African members should approach their local branches. We must point out that it is difficult to quote a fixed price without knowing the method of payment and delivery. We suggest Bossie de Kock (the treasurer) via e-mail at bossiedekock@freemail.absa.co.za or by fax at +27 12 804 8892 and list the items you are interested in as well as the name of the country in which you reside. Bossie would then be in a position to suggest the most economical option. Australian and UK members are reminded that they can order via Ken Smith and Michael Jeans respectively. We hope to have a contact person in the USA very soon. Also note that further discounts can be negotiated with Bossie for orders exceeding 10 of a specific item. The following items are available:

Item	Approximate price (US \$)
Yearbook 4	
Yearbook 3	10*

Yearbook 2	3*
Yearbook 1	3*
Volumes 1(1992) to 10 (2001) of newsletters	5 per volume*
Hints on growing Clivia – hard copy	Out of stock
Hints on growing Clivia – electronic PDF format	5
International membership list – hard copy	3*
International membership list – electronic format	2*

* Excluding banking charges

BEGINNER’S LUCK - BREEDING FOR MULTIPETALS

Shige Sasaki gave a very interesting tip informally at the Clivia Conference in Pietermaritzburg on growing multipetals.

As Hannes Robertse explained in his article on “The Clivia Pistil” in Yearbook 3, (page 16), the stigma at the tip of the style of a clivia flower is normally divided into three lobes which separate and unfold when the flower opens. The pollen sticks to the very tip of each of these lobes.

Shige explained that the florets on a multipetal flower head which will produce multipetal seed are those with stigmas which are divided into four, not three lobes. At our recent Cape Clivia Club Show we examined multipetal flower heads and found that only a few of the florets had stigmas with four lobes. It seems therefore that in breeding and purchasing multipetal seed, growers and buyers must ensure that the seed comes from those florets only.

Mick Dower.

ON THE COMPOST HEAP

Exhaustion has set in after all the activities of the conference, trips and shows. However, please remember to send your Clivia Cultivar names to Ken Smith before the end of the year. Contributions for the Yearbook, Clivia 5, and the Newsletter covers should also reach Claude Felbert before 31 December 2002. Hopefully while you’re all busy with that I will get busy testing this season’s latest flavours!

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

As regards the book "Clivias" by Harold Koopowitz, overseas members should note that a discount of 10% is applicable should a combined order of 10 or more copies are placed with the publisher. We recommend that you contact one the following overseas representatives:

New Zealand: Keith Hammett, tel. + 64 9 833 9453; fax: +64 9 833 5490; E-mail: khammett@clear.net.nz

Australia: Ken Smith tel. + 02 47543287; E-mail: cliviasmith@hotmail.com