

CLIVIA SOCIETY

newsletter



Volume 13 No 4 Summer 2004

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

The present newsletter, the last of 2004, is largely devoted to the reports of the Clubs and Interest Groups, both locally and overseas. It is ironical that those Clubs which were last to hold their shows were the first to send in their reports for publication. Shows are not only about winning awards. The preparation leading to the final show day is both exhilarating and frustrating. However, the camaraderie that accompanies these events will be remembered for years afterwards. Many ideas for providing the public with information about clivia and motivating them to grow clivia come from shows and exhibitions. There are good ideas in the report from the New Zealand Clivia Club. Don't forget to visit the Clivia Society website www.clivias.com for photographs of clivia at the shows. At last Clivia mirabilis seedlings are available and details as how to order them are given.

Sadly, we have lost another of our avid Clivia Society members. Gert Wiese passed away on 16 November 2004 after a year's battle with cancer. He will be sorely missed. Our deepest sympathy to Winsome and family.

John van der Linde's series on 'Some early names associated with Clivia' has come to

an end leaving a substantial gap in the 'Newsletter'. There were very few contributions to the 'Correspondence' section for this newsletter. Mitch Rundie has been experimenting growing seedlings with Superthrive. Another young member from The Eastern Province Clivia Club is introduced and Tom Whitehorn has a question to ask about his Yellow multipetal. Other contributions have come from the Internet Clivia Enthusiast Group. Always useful for new growers, is a section which gives practical advice to beginners. Please submit any ideas you may have to this section. The North American Clivia Society advises interested members about the Clivia Symposium at the Huntington in California next year. Although costly, those who have been there will attest to the magnificence of this landmark Botanical site on the West Coast - definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity for Clivia growers around the world.

This editorial brings to a close another excellent year. The Editor wishes all a happy festive season and looks forward to an exciting new year.

Editor.

From the Chairman

In the previous newsletter we stated that the Clivia Society was requested by the editor of Oprah Magazine not to make an official announcement regarding the "Finding Oprah Project". We can now announce that Ms. Winfrey has given written permission for a Clivia to be named after her. A clivia grown by Bertie Guillaume of Brom 'n Nel Nursery in the Limpopo Province of South Africa was

chosen as the winning entry. Initially the idea was to name the winning entry 'Oprah'. However, when it became known that the plant was unofficially known as 'Bella Donna', 'Bella Donna Oprah' was chosen as an appropriate name. Oprah Magazine South African editor, Kgomotso Matsunyane afterwards said: "In fact, when we chose this specific clivia, we did not know that it

was already unofficially named 'Bella Donna'. Adding Oprah's name to the plant made perfect sense for this beautiful flower and one of the most inspirational women in the world." An application to register the plant as 'Bella Donna Oprah' has been submitted to Ken Smith, the international registrar for the genus clivia. A sucker of 'Bella Donna Oprah' will also be presented to Ms. Winfrey. Thank you to John van der Linde, Claude Felbert, Mickey Hoctor and Cobus Roos for your contribution to the "Finding Oprah Project". It is much appreciated.



Other good news is that approval has been given to Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden to coordinate the sale of approximately 1200 two-year-old *Clivia mirabilis* seedlings. Full details on how to go about ordering seedlings, appears on page 7 of this newsletter. Please note that the closing date for orders is 31 January 2005.

During show time several new members joined Clivia Clubs. We considered it appropriate to source material that could smooth the learning curve. I recall that a couple of years ago we asked members to share prac-

tical Clivia growing hints with us. The response was disappointing to say the least - nobody responded. This time we had a much better response from members who were approached by e-mail. Thank you to those who have spared a minute or two of their time sharing their knowledge and ideas with us. Please let this not be a once only contribution. Every member is invited to either forward hints on growing clivia to the editor or to ask for advice on growing clivia. We will do our best to address your questions in forthcoming newsletters.

As a result of the weakening of foreign currencies relative to the South African rand and the escalation of postage fees, we had to reconsider the membership fees applicable to clivia enthusiasts resident outside South Africa. As a result the fees have been increased from US\$ 20 to US\$ 25.

A document listing the results of all the 2004 South African Clivia shows will soon be forwarded to Club secretaries and representatives of Clivia enthusiasts resident outside South Africa. Please contact these persons should you be interested in a copy.

On behalf of the Clivia Society I would like to express our condolences with the Abel and Wiese families. Connie and James Abel's son in law suddenly passed away during October. Oom Gert served as a Club representative on the Clivia Society since May 2001. Oom Gert, the balanced perspective you brought to Annual General Meetings will be sadly missed.

The management committee of the Clivia Society wishes you a blessed festive season and a 2005 that will turn out to be a peach of a year.

Clivia greetings

Chris Vlok

Obituary — Gert Wiese

We bid farewell to a great friend and stalwart this morning (16 November 2004). Gert Wiese had been fighting lymph cancer with great determination for over a year but succumbed peacefully when it recurred in his lungs, he was a man of deep faith.



Gert Wiese (left) receiving honorary membership of the Cape Clivia Club

Gert celebrated his 83rd birthday last Tuesday and our deepest sympathy is felt for Winsome and their six children. They have been everybody's ideal family, very close, and with five of the children now in Cape Town, Winsome will not be alone. They are also embraced by the love from their many friends.

Gert was a kingpin and a Honorary Life Member of the Cape Clivia Club. He had been growing clivia for over 30 years, at first concentrating on improving the yellow clivia from the habitat at Howick in Natal to the point where it was twice 'Best on Show'. His breeding was so successful that it is the only clivia that I know that can be said to breed virtually true from seed. To celebrate the golden anniversary of the women's magazine "Sarie", Gert agreed to name it 'Sarie

Gold', it was photographed for the Yearbook and also appeared on the front cover of a Clivia Society Newsletter.

Gert was always more than generous in sharing his knowledge of clivia and his plants with other enthusiasts and helping beginners. No beginner ever left his home without a few gift plants.

From its inception Gert played a leading role on the Committee of the Cape Clivia Club and has also been one of our representatives on the Clivia Society. When the facilities at Kirstenbosch became too small for our Shows, he initiated the move to far more suitable premises at Bellville and ensured the success of the Shows held there. Less than two months ago, and despite his illness, he again showed plants which were adjudged best in their class.

True to his caring for others, he also took it upon himself to source potting soil, pots, fertilizer and chemicals at wholesale prices, made them available at a small profit to our Club members and passed the profit on to the Club.

He had a lasting effect in many other spheres, also the other communities in which he stayed.

He was a true gentleman, modest, unselfish, caring for all and a loving and deeply loved patriarch of his family.

Mick Dower
Cape Town.

(Below is the Afrikaans version of the obituary which was translated by Coen Caiitz, Stellenbosch)

GERT WIESE

Vanoggend se ons totsiens aan 'n groot vriend en opregte staatsmaker, 'n pilaar in die Clivia-huis. Gert Wiese het vir meer as 'n jaar verbete geveg teen limf kanker, maar het vreedsaam heengegaan toe dit weer in sy lange toegeslaan het. Hy was 'n diep gelowige mens, wat sy 83ste verjaarsdag laas Dinsdag gevier het, omring deur sy liefdevolle gesin. Ons bied ons innigste simpatie aan Winsome en hulle ses kinders. Hulle is vir baie die ideale gesin, baie geheg en meelewend, met 5 van hulle in Kaapstad. Genadiglik sal Winsome nie nou alleen wees nie. Die liefde van hulle baie vriende sal hulle ook omhels.

Gert was 'n ere-lewenslid en 'n groot gees in die Kaapse Clivia Klub. Hy kweek Clivia oor meer as 30 jaar, aanvanklik met die hoofdoel om die geel Clivia wat natuurlik by Howick in Natal voorgekom het, te verbeter. Dit was so suksesvol dat dit twee keer die Skoubeste was. Dit is dusver na my beste wete die enigste geel wat bykans volkome suiwer met saad voortplant. Vir die 50ste verjaarsdag van die bekende vrouetydskrif SARIE, het Gert ingestem dat die besondere plant "Sarie Goud" kan heet. Foto's hiervan het in die Jaarboek en op die voorblad van die Clivia Nuusbrief verskyn.

Gert was altyd besonder vrygewig met sy kennis en plante aan Clivia entoesiaste en veral aan beginners. Nuwe kwekers het altyd van sy huis af vertrek met 'n paar geskenkplante in die hand.

Vanaf stigting was Gert 'n leier op die komitee van die Kaapse Clivia Klub en hy was een van ons verteenwoordigers op die Clivia vereniging. Toe die fasiliteite by Kirstenbosch te beperk geword het vir ons skou, insieer en reel hy die skuif na die meer geskikte plek in Bellville en doen ook baie moeite om die sukses daar te verseker. In die afgelope twee jaar, ten spyte van sy siekte, skou hy nog plante wat die beste in hulle klas is. Getrou

aan sy omgee-aard, neem hy op sy skouers die reusetaakom potgrond, kunsmis, chemikalie en potte aan Klublede beskikbaar te stel, teen groothandelprijs met 'n klein winsie vir die klub.

Op vele ander gebiede, ook in die gemeenskappe waarin hy gewoon het, het hy 'n onuitwisbare effek gehad.

Hy was 'n ware heer - nederig, onselfsugtig, meelewend en 'n liefdevolle en geliefde patriarg vir sy gesin.

Opgestel deur: Mick Dower, Kaapstad

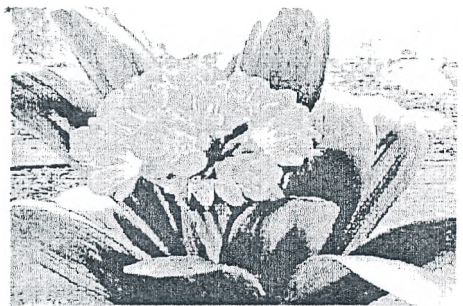
(Jry vertaal deur Coen Calitz, Stellenbosch: "Gegroet, Oom Gert, dit was 'n tang, mooi reis van Kakamas af").

Other comments about Gert Wiese

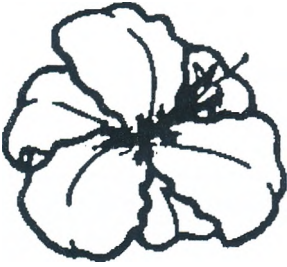
One of the very first plants that I purchased four years ago was this plant from Oom Gert Wiese. This photograph was taken on the day of his death - in full flower for the second time this season. This is a semi-broadleaf, a show prizewinner and certainly one of my favorite plants. I am very proud of this plant. Bye Oom Gert Wiese.

Gerrie Brits.

Garden Route Clivia Club



You gave me my first Yellow (Howick) and treated me always with respect. The first lesson you gave me in 1997 was, here we are not Prof. or Dr. or anything. Here we are



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equals. Thanks also to Winsome. You touched me.

Charl Coetzee
Port Elizabeth, South Africa

I just had the privilege to attend the funeral of Oom Gert Wiese. I would like to share something that says something of Oom Gert.

Every person that attended the ceremony received a seedling from Oom Gert's collection

Oom Gert was not only always prepared to share his knowledge, he always wanted to give... Dankie Oom Gert

Phil Pieterse.

— Invitation to order *Clivia Mirabilis*

The Northern Cape Department of Conservation has granted NBI a permit to sell *Clivia mirabilis* plants. It is hoped that the seedlings will be large enough to sell by March 2005. The price per seedling will be R200. An advert will be placed on the NBI website, <http://www.sanbi.org/frames/what-snewfram.htm>. Definitely no seed or pollen will be available for sale. Depending on demand, Kirstenbosch will be provided with further seed to grow on for sale in due course.

Orders can be placed with

Joy Woodward
Cape Clivia Club
P O Box 53219
Kenilworth 7745
Tel 021 799 8768
Fax 021 61 4687
E-mail capeclivia@ibox.co.za or woodward@nbi.ac.za

The following document has been taken from the above-mentioned website

An opportunity all Clivia fans have been keenly awaiting

Up to 1200 two year old seedlings will be available early in 2005

Background

Clivia mirabilis, the recently described

species discovered in the winter rainfall region of the Northern Cape, falls under the protection of the Department of Nature Conservation Northern Cape. Any sale of *Clivia mirabilis* material will form part of a community upliftment project in the Northern Cape. Seed was harvested and brought to Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden to germinate and grow on to a suitable size for sale.

Sale Conditions

It is estimated that up to 1200 two year old seedlings will be available by early 2005. Supply may be limited, on a without fear or favour basis, depending on the demand for seedlings. Orders will be limited to a maximum of five seedlings per person, but if there is an over demand, to one per person and by a draw, if necessary. The cost per seedling will be R200.00, plus postage, packaging and the cost of a phytosanitary certificate (if necessary), and bank charges. Credit card facilities will be available at an additional cost of 5%.

This first release of *Clivia mirabilis* will be coordinated by the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden.

Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden may reserve and purchase some of these seedlings to exchange for rare *Clivia* culti-

vars which will enhance its collections of Clivia.

Growing Clivia mirabilis

This species occurs naturally in an arid Mediterranean type climate experiencing a prolonged hot dry summer. Vegetative growth takes place in winter and flowering in early summer (mid October to mid November). The growth rhythm is the opposite of all the other known species which occur in a summer rainfall area.

The horticultural attributes of Clivia mirabilis are:

- Appears to be fully sun tolerant
- Very drought resistant
- The species is apparently most closely related to Clivia nobilis but its seedlings differ markedly in their very much more rapid vegetative growth, their long linear sub erect leaves with a median white stripe and the prominent purple red pigmentation of the leaf bases.
- It has potential to hybridise with other species of Clivia to produce a race of drought resistant and sun hardy forms which should grow very well in dry Mediterranean climates.
- There is no experience of its frost hardiness but the habitat occasionally experiences brief periods of a few degrees below zero temperatures in winter.

Cultivation

A well drained growing medium is essential

for the successful growing of Clivia mirabilis. The seedlings on offer have been grown in two different mediums, one of milled pine bark and the other consists of equal parts milled pine bark and coarse sand. Either medium can be used. Care must be taken not to over water.

How to Order

All orders must:

- Addressed to Joy Woodward.
 - By post to Kirstenbosch, SANBI, Private Bag X7, Claremont 7735, South Africa
 - By fax to+27 (021) 761 4687;
 - By e-mail to woodward@nbi.ac.za
- Please type: Clivia mirabilis order in the subject line.
- All orders must indicate number required and give full name, postal address and telephone/fax numbers of purchaser
 - Safe receipt of every order will be acknowledged within one week.
 - The closing date for orders will be 31 January 2005.
 - All persons placing orders will be advised, as soon as possible after that closing date, to what extent their orders have been successful, how much they must pay and payment method options.
 - All plants will be posted by overnight mail to South African destinations and by registered airmail to overseas destinations, all at buyer's risk.

Stories behind the cover photographs

The cover photographs this quarter are all of *miniata* with dark orange to red flowers. Such dark colours are in high demand from collectors and the public, both for their contrast with the more usual lighter oranges and for their rarity. From results reported by a number of breeders, it would seem that it is generally difficult to predict that a cross between two dark orange/reds (or a selfing) will produce seedlings which will flower true to their parent's colour. In many cases the seedlings have lighter-coloured flowers than the parents. Furthermore, very dark, highly pigmented stems do not guarantee that the resulting flowers will be dark! At best, it seems necessary to grow a batch of seedlings from dark orange/red parentage on to maturity, and then to select out those (if any) with desirable dark orange/red flowers. Alternatively, one has to try to get hold of an offset from a known dark orange/red plant.

Also, it is probable that the darker the colour, the more likely it is that the flowers are funnel-shaped (longer than they are wider), rather than more open, which is more commonly the case with lighter orange coloured flowers. So dark orange/reds like 'Wisley Red', with its more open flowers, are extremely rare. Another feature that has been noticed is that most dark orange/reds seem to have European breeding somewhere in their background - these dark colours do not seem to occur in the wild. Perhaps funnel shaped flowers are an indicator of *nobilis*, or other pendulous "blood" introduced into plants crossbred in Germany, Belgium or elsewhere in Europe 100 or more years ago? Further evidence of European breeding might be the broader leaves, and also flowers which tend to face upwards - look at the plants pictured here.

Photo no. 1 (Front cover)

This picture was chosen for the front cover as being a very good example of a dark orange/red flower. However, it is not as red as the faces of those who chose it. as we seem to have lost its identity! If you recognize it please tell Meg Hart, the Newsletter Editor, what you know of the plant. It certainly is a good illustration of some of the points made above.

Photo no. 2 (back cover)

This plant belongs to Toy Jennings, now of Fish Hoek in the Cape Peninsula, but formerly of Pretoria. It is a sucker of a plant bred in Pretoria by the late Tienie Holtzhausen from Belgian Hybrid stock. After his death, some of his plants were sold off, snapped up by enthusiasts who knew of Tienie's success in breeding top plants over many years. His widow, Annatjie, is a member of the Northern Clivia Club.

Toy bought this particular plant after seeing the mother plant in flower and noting its rich dark orange to red colour. Her plant flowered in August 2001, 2002 and 2003, producing two umbels on each occasion. It decided to be different in 2004 and flowered in October, and to date has had only one head of flowers.

Toy used the RHS Colour Chart to colour code the flower as RHS 43B in the red group. This corresponds pretty well with the colour "orange/red" on the Cape Clivia Club colour chart. The funnel-shaped flowers are 70mm long and 66mm across. As can be seen from the picture, the small light yellow throat is not prominent. There is a good overlap of the nicely rounded petals. Each year one or two flowers have had more than the usual 6 petals. Toy tells me the plant is self-fertile,

but that she has not bred any plants from its seed. It has yet to produce an offset, and Toy has a queue of people waiting...

Photo no. 3 (back cover)

This plant was photographed at Cape Foliage Farm, a corporate member of the Cape Clivia Club, at their huge shade house complex on the way to Malmesbury, north of Cape Town. Their main business is ferns, which they produce for florists and for the export market. Their clivia collection is largely based on plants brought down to the Cape from Eastern Mpumalanga, including the well-known 'Cameron Peach'.

As plants grown from seed come into flower, they are sorted by colour and then the most desirable ones are grouped together. The plant pictured, which is believed to have a Belgian Hybrid background, was chosen to be photographed for its exceptionally red colour which set it apart from the rest. The flowers, like most dark orange to reds, do not open very wide. As can be seen, a particularly noteworthy feature that makes this plant special is the almost complete absence of a throat of another colour. Contrast this feature with the flowers pictured in the other two photographs.

John van der Linde

Correspondence

Cape Clivia Colour Chart

As one of the creators of the Cape Clivia Chart I confirm that 'Dark Red' was not intended to be RHS45A or 46A but a darker red which we identified in clivia and which is not on the RHS chart.

We are preparing a supplementary chart, which will have additional colours and could well concentrate more on the yellows, orange/reds, and peach/apricots. All suggestions of what specific colours to include will be very welcome - you can refer to colours on the RHS chart or any other chart that is readily available, especially where the RHS chart does not have that particular clivia flower colour.

It has also been suggested that the chart should be a matt dark grey basic colour. It will also be more flexible - any comments or other suggestions?

With best wishes,

Mick Dower, Cape Town.

Experiment using Superthrive for Clivia seed germination under controlled temperature

I was requested to conduct an experiment with "Superthrive" and would like to share my experience with fellow clivia enthusiasts.

Using a sharp 5mm hollow punch the outer membranes of seeds were pierced in a circle around the radicle. A pair of tweezers and/or fingernails were used to remove the membrane from the seed. A mixture of Superthrive was prepared (3 drops per 250ml of water) in which the seed was immersed. Much to my surprise the radicle emerged within minutes of the membrane being removed. This was probably due to pressure within the seed itself.

The following seeds were used in the above experiment.

Group No 1 Botha's Dark Red x self

Group No 2 Bing Wiese Cyrtanthiflora
x yellow

Group No 3 Howick yellow x Chubb's

peach

Group No 4 Gardenii x Bill Morris

Group No 5 Hall yellow x Bing Wiese
Cyrtanthiflora

The seed was put into the Superthrive solution at 18:30 on Friday evening 13 August 2004. At 19:30 Saturday evening 14 August 2004 the seed was removed and put into moist sand beds that had been sterilized in a microwave for 4 minutes and then cooled. The seeds were then placed in a controlled temperature room and maintained at 22 to 24 degrees Centigrade.

The seed was noticed to having the following:

Group No 1 Had 10 with emerged radicles and 10 that had not emerged.
50 %

Group No 2 Had 37 with emerged radicles and 16 that had not emerged.
70 %

Group No 3 Had 17 with emerged radicles and 19 that had not emerged.
47 %

Group No 4 Had 22 with emerged radicles and 11 that had not emerged.
67 %

Group No 5 Had 18 with emerged radicles and 35 that had not emerged.
34 %

The lengths of the radicles ranged between 1 and 3 mm long.

The daily observations are listed in the table below.

DAY	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	AVE %
0	50%	70%	47%	67%	34%	53.6
1	70%	79%	92.6%	94%	83%	83
2	95%	89%	100%	97%	98%	95.8
3	95%	91%	100%	97%	100%	96.6
4	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

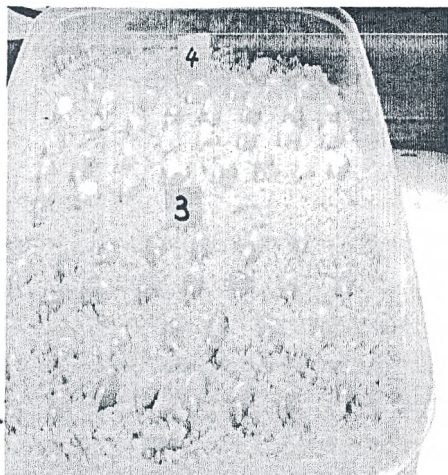
After 1 day in the CT room 2 seeds of Group 3 were showing signs of leaves.

After 2 days in the CT room 1 seed of Group 1 was making a leaf.

It seems that some of the radicles are about to wither, as they have not progressed further into the direction of the filter sand. This is a small percentage.

18 seeds that were not treated or modified in any way were planted and they showed no indication of germination after day 3, nor after 20 days.

After 22 days 94 to 100 percent of the seed had leaves ranging between 3mm and 15mm long. All the seeds have been plant-



ed into seed trays and there seems to be no indication of failure thus far. See attached photo of the seed after 3 days.

What was strange and new to me, being a novice was that some seeds from Group No 3 had up to 4 radicles emerging at random. These might be something new and wonderful.

Regards

Mitch Rundle
E.P Clivia Club
Tel 041-3714460

I have a question regarding the control group of 18 seeds that " were not treated or modified in any way..." and did not germinate after 20 days. Had the outer membranes of these seeds been pierced or not? This may have changed the germination outcome of the control group had they been pierced. Was the phenomenal germination of the seeds in the experiment due to Superthrive alone or to the fact that the seed coatings had been pierced in the vicinity of the radicles? Editor.

Clivias are a growing interest for Danielle

The Eastern Province Clivia Club has a fresh bloom in its ranks, Danielle Durandt, a 12-year-old girl who, according to the club PRO, has a bright future in flowers.

Young Danielle Durandt, a Grade 6 pupil, attended the annual clivia show last year and was so dazzled by the vivid orange and yellow flowers that she asked if she could sign up. As the club is always looking for new members, it was only too delighted to oblige. "I love planting things and seeing them grow," said Danielle.

Clivia club PRO Gideon Botha said that, as Danielle was only 12, she had a lifetime of clivia growing ahead of her. It takes more than two years to propagate the more common orange bloom from seed to flower, and up to four or five years for some of the yellow varieties, he said. "If she starts now, at 12, she will be able to see many more generations of clivias than the average club

member. Most of the Clivia Club members are past 40 - or even 50 for that matter! - so she can cross-pollinate such a lot because of her young age."

Enterprising Danielle featured in La Femme last year for her homemade floral pens - and her mother, Sue, encourages her green-fingered daughter's horticultural interests. "We are home schooling, so this is another interest to build on," Sue said. The main focus of Danielle's education is mathematics and languages, and she then explores content areas that are of interest, like gardening.

By Gillian McAinsh
COURTESY OF LA FEMME EASTERN
PROVINCE HERALD

Siamese or what?

During the previous flowering season I found one flower on a yellow clivia that had ten perianth lobes, ten anthers as well as two stigmas. I hand-pollinated both stigmas that had one combined ovary. The other flowers on the plant were normal and showed no signs of being multi petal in any way.



The seed in question is at this stage much larger than the other seeds. It is obvious that the pollination of the two stigmas had resulted in the formation of one combined seed capsule. It also appears that the pedicel attached to the seed, consists of two units that are also combined as a single unit. To put it shortly it appears that the flower in all

respects opened as a double and is now bearing a double seed. (Please see photo) This process has repeated itself during the recent flowering season. Is this a common

occurrence? Can the experts please provide me with an explanation?

Tom Whitehorn.

From the Clivia enthusiast e-group

Light of Buddha and Akebono Daruma

9 November 2004

Dear Col,

From my observations and culture, there is a distinct difference between LOB and Akebono. The typical Akebono displays horizontal bands on the leaves which are seasonally driven - i.e. it appears that temperature plays a role in determining whether chloroplasts are developed. James Abel has a lot more to say in Yearbook 6 about Akebono and there are illustrations as well. Once developed, the distinct horizontal and usually white band is there for the life of the plant.

LOB, on the other hand, has a totally different modus operandi. Often only starting after the first few leaves have formed, the leaf emerges a clear yellow colour, less often whitish. As the leaf gets larger, it will slowly turn green in those areas exposed to the most light. The old, lower leaves in a LOB thus tend to be much greener than the new leaves. As successive leaves are formed, chevron green patterns appear as a result of more light due to the plant being moved, etc. For this reason it is best to grow LOB plants out of direct sunlight, in a shady place to achieve the most dramatic coloration. Also do not keep turning the plant or unwanted markings may result. Also do not overfeed - this also stimulates the chloroplasts to go green.

One does sometime see combinations of LOB coloring and Akebono, as also longitu-

dinal variegation, although never all three on the same plant. However this is not necessarily impossible. Some Akebono + longitudinal variegation plants show distinct tartan patterning on their leaves!

Mr. Wu Bo, a famous clivia breeder and discoverer of this leaf color mutation, quite by chance many years ago, developed 'Light of Buddha' (LOB). At first, most clivia enthusiasts in China did not like LOB because they thought it was diseased! The leaves of the original LOB plant were narrow and long. Mr. Wu started a breeding program to cross LOB with Japanese Daruma. About 80% of the progeny of a LOB plant will show variegation but at the 1-4 leaf stage the variegation is not obvious and will improve later in its growth. The reason for all the different varieties of LOB and Akebono seen in Chinese Clivia today is a result of crossing the two strains, so new combinations keep popping up.

Roger (in sticky, hot and dry Pretoria).

Microchips in valuable clivia plants?

Hi Everybody,

Sincere sympathy to all those who have lost plants as a result of "theft". Just a suggestion, if you own a plant, and you really love it, and it is valuable, have a micro-chip embedded in the plant. If it's stolen, you will be able to get it back. I have micro-chips in a few "Cycads", brought from the Eastern Cape during 2003 to the Western Cape and

have been assured by Nature Conservation that if stolen; they can be traced.

It pays to look after your investments.

Clivia regards,

Dickie Gunston.

Dickie.

In spite of its name, a "microchip" might be a little too large in relation to the size of a Clivia. Also, since most Clivia don't have a permanent, "woody" trunk, it might be impractical as a long-term solution. It doesn't take long for people to work around anti-theft devices. Cycad thieves are using radiography to detect the chips, which are then excised from the trunk.

Lastly, there is a vast difference between 'tracing' a plant and identifying it. The chip can aid in the recovery of a stolen plant only if the stolen plant is first located. This is difficult enough in the case of a large, obvious, relatively rare plant such as a specimen cycad, but trying to track down something as common as a Clivia via microchip would most likely prove to be an exercise in futility.

Ken K
East S.E Bay Area
California
USDA Zone 9

Clivia photography

I would like to add my thanks and congratulations to all those who organised and exhib-

ited at Clivia shows around the world this year. There is no such show in the UK and we rely on your photographs to inspire us and to appreciate what is happening. Your pictures are particularly important to us as, sadly, we could probably never get such a show off the ground here due to the small number of growers. However, that should not stop us taking pictures and showing them to members around the world. To keep the flag flying for Lady Charlotte, could I encourage all Clivia Society members, especially those in the UK, to send an image to the big annual event, the Clivia photographic competition? Apart from the fabulous prizes, winning images are published in the Year Book for all to enjoy.

Remember, this competition is more about photography than plants, so even your orange *miniata* could win it for you. There are lots of different categories and pictures can be of a group of plants, a single whole plant or a close-up detail - but make sure your picture is sharp where it matters. Avoid a distracting background. Strong colours or extraneous objects will take your eyes away from the flower. See Newsletter 3 of 2004 for a copy of the entry form. You will note that you can send prints or emails.

It couldn't be easier! I know closing date is a long way off but why not send some entries now? You can always send more later. Go for it - and good luck !

Ian Coates.
England.

Practical hints for beginners

PRACTICAL HINTS FOR BEGINNERS

During show time several new members joined Clivia Clubs. We considered it appropriate to source material that could smooth

the learning curve. I recall that a couple of years ago we asked members to share practical Clivia growing hints with us. The response was disappointing to say the least

- nobody responded. This time we had a

much better response from members who were approached by e-mail. Thank you to those who have spared a minute or two of their time sharing their knowledge and ideas with us. Please let this not be a once only contribution. Every member is invited to either forward hints on growing clivia to the editor or to ask for advice on growing clivia. We will do our best to address your questions in forthcoming newsletters. (Chris Vlok)

Chris Vlok, Northern Clivia Club

- Reduce the risk of fungal diseases by only watering your clivias in the morning.
- When pollinating write (with a permanent marker pen) the number or name of the pollen plant on the peduncle of the mother plant.
- Keep a permanent marker pen and a dozen or two plant markers in a waterproof container in the garden or shade house - as we get older we tend to forget the story behind the clivia that was put aside to be labeled later.

Gideon Botha - E.RC.C.

- Serious growers believe that seedlings with seed still attached do not need any additional feeding. I experienced that some seeds do not contain enough nutrients and additional feeding does not do any harm.

Mitch Rundle - E.RC.C.

What I have found is that my germinated seedlings that still have seed attached seem to do better if they are kept in shade deeper than what comes through 80% cloth. All the leaves shine as though they have just been wiped with Oleum mixture.

Wimpie Maass - E.RC.C.

- As a beginner myself, I am still learning

by trial and error, and the best and only advice I am thus far able to give is that potential enthusiasts should make a concerted effort to find out all they can about a suitable growing medium. It is absolutely heartbreaking to see your year old seedlings die due to root rot. I am of the opinion that getting the growing medium right could be the single most important component in growing of Clivia.

Andre Calitz - E.RC.C.

It can generally be said that Clivias can grow in any medium - some growers grow them in plain "pine needles" and some in plain "fine bark". I personally believe that a Clivia is a hardy plant and will grow in any type of soil.

My mixture for all Clivias, from a one year old to mature plants consists of the following:

- 70 % fine bark
- 10% river sand (coarse sand like "swimming pool filter sand")
- 15 % potting soil
- 5% bonemeal / peatmoss / vermiculite / Bounceback.

As you will notice, this is a very "loose" mixture that works for me. I also applied the principle that "the thicker the root, the less water the plant needs". I water my Clivias every second week and spray their leaves with water on "hot" days. I also feed my Clivias once a month, either through the root systems or their leaves.

Willie le Roux - E.RC.C.

To prevent root-rot amongst my Clivias I provide extra drainage by cutting at least three additional slots, side to bottom of each pot, using two discs (on top of each other) in an angle grinder. - Willie Le Roux - E.PC.C.

Chari Coetzee - E.RC.C.

- Plants prefer fresh HUMID air, and should only be watered when nearly dry (no fixed frequency).
- Colonise the growing medium with the beneficial fungus TROCHODERMA. It competes with less wanted fungi. Administer by adding TRICHOFLOW to the water or mix TRICHODRY into the medium.
- At the coast, always add light nutrition to the water and water well, to prevent a salt build up.
If possible keep a plant until it flowered. It may produce that very special flower you have been wishing for.
- Remember, growing Clivia should always be a hobby, be good to your Clivia friends, especially to your spouse
- we need each other.

Dawie Van Der Mescht - E.RC.C

To germinate seeds, I put them in a container filled with a coarse medium such as swimming pool filter sand. I don't perforate the bottom of the container, as I prefer the medium to remain moist. Wet thoroughly and fix the container lid properly. I then put the container in my garden shed, which has an asbestos roof, which attracts heat to a great extent. Due to this excessive heat, the seeds start to germinate after 5 days.

Mark Joubert - E.RC.C.

- Clivia will grow in poor shady soil where few plants thrive e.g. Under Brazilian Pepper (*Schinus Terebinthifolius*) trees. The bulbous root system will survive in soil that is matted with other roots. *Clivia gardenii* is the fastest growing of the family and its foliage will provide a lush, dark-green swathe. The aloe-like flowers and berries will attract birds.
- Plant Marsh lilies (*Crinum*) close to your Clivia as indicator plants for the

Amaryllis caterpillar. The lily borer prefers the softer stems of *Crinum* and the worms will first infest them, providing an early warning to use insecticide. "Garden Ripcord" is effective, but apply it as a drench with a bucket or watering can; spraying is futile as the worms are inside the leaves, not on top. Margaret Roberts's biological caterpillar killer is also evidently very effective. It is A wettable powder that uses germs to kill the worms instead of poison and is therefore environmentally friendly.

Welland Cowley, E.RC.C.

Twice a month you should give your Clivias a shower by spraying them with water from above with the pistol type trigger sprayer which is supplied by Gardena and is a simple click-fix attachment to a garden hose. This gets rid of mealy bugs and dust that collect between the leaves. If plants are regularly treated in this manner they will be healthy and disease-free.

Charl Malan, Grahamstown, E.RC.C.

- I use osmocote High K for my flowering plants with very good results in respect of peduncle strength and length and size of umbel.
- My worm barometer is *Crinum mooreii* from Eastern Cape.
- I use 80% blue shade cloth on my shade houses.

Christo Topham, Northern Clivia Club

- When I lay seeds in trays for germinating I put dead leaves on top of the seed to create the same environment where clivias grow in the wild. I have a lot of success with this method and do not lose seeds to rot. This practice also prevents seeds moving when they are watered.
- Keep dead leaves in winter for

mulching clivias in pots. The mulch provides food for clivia and keep the roots cool.

Potting soil purchased in bulk should be allowed to mature further, to prevent losses when seedlings are transplanted or potted on.

Mick Dower, Cape Clivia Club

All clivia require good drainage. Always choose pots with side holes. Keep clivia on the dry side. Their thick roots act like water tanks but will rot if they are kept too wet. A good test is to stick a finger into the pot's soil - if one feels dampness, the plants do not need water. On the other hand, if they get too dry water will run through without wetting the loose and dry potting mix. In such a case soak the entire pot in water for a few hours to saturate the potting mix.

Seedlings need permanent dampness to ensure the growing points of the new roots do not dry off and die. They must never be allowed to dry out, but again if dampness is present when inserting a finger into a pot, they are fine. Too much water is also not appropriate.

If you pollinate all the florets on an umbel, you could land up with over a hundred seed, but all of the same breeding. To find out how the mother plant breeds with different "fathers", pollinate 2 to 4 florets with pollen from say plant "A". Mark the stem (pedicel) of that floret with one stripe using a sunfast pen and write on the stem of the umbel; 1 = x A; pollinate another 2 to 4 florets with pollen from plant "B" and mark their pedicels with 2 stripes and write on the stem of the umbel: 11 = x B - and so on with other pollens. When the berries are sufficiently swollen, mark the relevant stripes on

the berries themselves so that, if they fall off when they are ripe, you will know what they are!

Mike Jeans, United Kingdom

When first planting a plant that has been bare-rooted or plants from a division, I make sure that the point where the roots meet the -plant (the basal plate) is well above (1cm) the surface of the growing medium. In that way, not only can I keep an eye on the place where root rot usually starts, I can see new roots as they form. Additionally, rot is much less likely to occur well above the growing medium. If the plant is very valuable or important, the top of the roots can be sprayed with fungicide. When the plant is fully established, additional growing medium can be added to the pot so that the basal plate sits on the surface. My experience is that, even in cases of all the roots rotting, the plant can nearly always be re-rooted without too much difficulty - after which it will grow away quite happily.

Michael Morri, USA

Fungus gnat control: Fungus gnats (adults & larvae) can be a problem for those who grow their Clivias indoors. Attach fly (sticky) tape to both sides of a plant marker and insert in pot. This method will prevent the reproductive cycle without any chemical use.

Kimberley James, North America (submitted by Dr Lena van der Merwe)

For any other creepy crawlies (aphids and mealy bugs) that may affect clivias or other plants, I use a spray made of ground cayenne pepper, garlic mashed up and a tiny bit of soap (1 teas, per galloon) to help the mixture stick to the leaves. The bugs go away. If infestation was very bad, when they attempt to come back they bite and get a hot, nasty taste and take off again. I will

never convert the chemical folks in the world of clivia, but for those interested in getting away from the use of chemicals, this mixture works very well for me on ALL plants - in and out of the garden!

I would err first on the side of making a mixture weaker, then adding a teeny bit more orange oil if not successful after 1-3 drenchings for mealy bugs. It should be successful either way, but I always err on the side of a weaker solution when using orange oil - in my experience, clivias can be a BIT more sensitive to orange oil than many other plants. When using this concoction on any plants during a time of increased HEAT (summer or any temperatures above 80 or 85 Fahrenheit), I trim down the orange oil yet again.

[1 teas, per gallon = 12,5 ml per 3,8 litres of water]

Wysneus, Western Cape, South Africa

When germinating seeds, inspect them after about two weeks. Very often the skin has toughened and the little growth point is bulging under it. Get your reading glasses, sit under a strong light and carefully remove the two-layered membrane, starting from a small aperture between the growth point and the black patch. It looks a little like the open part of a pillowcase. I have seen 2 mm growth in one day!

When you repot, water the pot a few hours before, hold the plant by the stem in your left hand and hit the edge of the pot a sharp few blows with a piece of wood or a broom head. If the pot is heavy or the plant large, hold it in two hands, while your partner/assis-

tant hits it. The pot slips off easily and you can slip the undisturbed (and undamaged) ball of roots into a previously prepared bigger pot.

Opinion differs on whether a ball of roots should be combed out with the fingers when repotting. I think that the least amount of disturbance of (and therefore damage to) the roots is best.

I disbelieve the old myth that clivia must/wants to be pot bound to flower well. Use a wide pot, in balance with the height and spread of the Plant. To make the large pot manageable, fill the bottom third with 5 cm (2 inch) pieces of styrofoam (white packaging material) and fill up with your ordinary compost mix.

About fungi, before rushing out to invest in "good" fungi, which will attack the "bad", please think twice. Consider the human body - fungicides And antibiotics kill all or most of the spectrum - a veritable shotgun Approach. Look up the excellent article on the preventative and curative use of fungicides in the Cape Clivia Club's *Cape News Number 4*, November 2004. This knowledgeable, professional author is also of the opinion that the beneficial fungi does not work for all crops and situations. Is it used in agriculture?

Therefore, perhaps the most important tip: keep your eyes, ears and mind Open. Also the mouth to ask questions. Do not believe everything (or Anything) anybody says on good authority. Think about it, try it out and if it works for you, do it. Until new knowledge comes along.

DEFINITION OF TERMS AND GLOSSARY

The following definitions are taken from the draft document on 'Standards' and will whet your appetite for the final document. Editor.

Term	Definition
Acropetal	Produced in succession from the base upwards, so that the oldest members are at the base, and the youngest at the top.
Acute	Having a sharp and rather abrupt point: said usually of a leaf tip.
Basal	Situated at the base
Calyx	The outer whorl of a flower made up of sepals which are usually green.
Corolla	A collective term for the petals of a flower, which are usually brightly coloured.
Family	The taxonomic division between an order and a genus. It contains similar genera. The names of botanical families usually end in -aceae. The genus <i>Clivia</i> is placed in the family <i>Amrnyllidaceae</i> .
Genus	A taxonomic rank containing related species. Similar genera are collected into a family.
Hybrid	A cross between two individuals of unlike genetic constitution. These can be of the same species, different species in the same genus, or different species in different genera.
Inflorescence	A flowering shoot bearing more than one flower.
Involute	Having inrolled margins.
Lanceolate	Flattened, two or three times as long as broad, widest at the middle and tapering to a pointed apex.
Ligulate	Strap-shaped,
Margin	The edge of a leaf or other flattened plant member.
Median	Middle.
Oblanceolate	Lanceolate, tapering, but towards the base.
Obovate	Having the general shape of the longitudinal section of an egg; not exceeding twice as long as broad, and with the greatest width slightly above the middle, hence attached at the narrow end.
Perianth	The floral envelope, it includes the calyx and corolla.
Pedicel	The stalk of an individual flower of an inflorescence.
Peduncle	A stalk of an inflorescence.
Raceme	A definite inflorescence, with the main axis bearing stalked flowers which are borne in acropetal succession.
Retuse	Having a bluntly rounded apex with a central notch.
Revolute	Rolled backwards and usually downwards.
Species	The smallest unit of classification commonly used. In sexually reproducing organisms it is a maximum interbreeding, or potentially interbreeding group, breeding true within its own limits in nature.
Tepal	A perianth segment, not differentiated into a calyx (sepal) or corolla (petal).
Tessellated	Surface marked with squarish areas, blocky appearance
Umbel	A raceme in which the axis has not elongated, so that the flowers stalks arise at the same point. Thus the flowers are in a head, with the oldest at the outside
Variation	Irregular variation in colour of a plant organ, e.g. leaves or flowers due to suppression of normal pigment development. This may be due to the action of a marginal genotype, somatic mutation, or infection

Clivia clubs and interest groups

WATERBERG BOSLELIE INTEREST GROUP

As two years previously, two exhibitions were held this year. These were about clivias and not about the owners of the plants! The earlier event was held in July as that is when there were a large number of interspecifics flowering.

There were over 80 exhibits in the spacious hall of the Susan Strydom School. These included some variegated and broadleaf specimens without flowers. 88 visitors entered the hall and were asked to vote for 3 plants of their choice. There were many commendable comments on the ballot voting papers. No judging was done on this occasion.

The group's annual show event was held at the same venue on the 28 August 2004. 142 exhibits were entered in 22 groups and were benched on the Friday morning so that two judges of the NCC managed to finish judging by 15h00. Although the interest group was satisfied with the general quality of the plants the comments of the judges were rather negative. They said the "overall quality was not good" and "most entries are ordinary". These technical points used as judging criteria and the criticisms reduce the enthusiasm, the spontaneous love and the admiration most growers have for their "ordinary" clivias.

256 members of the public visited the show on the Saturday, paying R5.00 each which was given to charity as usual. There were very positive comments from the public although they expressed the wish to see more yellows. These flowered a little late this year.

Our group is very happy and appreciative of the hard work of the members and especial-

ly the contribution of the Headmaster and Manus Beytell for their support and help. The usual fees for the Hall were directed to the Help Centre, one of our beneficiaries. Local newspaper coverage was disappointing.

The group is planning two exhibitions next year. The first will be at Potgietersrus the second last weekend of August and the usual event in Nylstroom will be on the last Saturday of August. In the interim the plants are being appropriately pampered.

Johan and An Jacobs.

NORTHERN CLIVIA CLUB

The planning for the show started well in advance as for the first time we held our show at the Safari Garden Centre. We did not know what to expect and had to think about a lot of new things.

On the Thursday before the show some of us started to mark out the seller's stalls. The excitement started to build up. I do not know what scared me the most, the unknown or the fact that things might go wrong. Friday morning at 8h00 our members started to arrive with their plants. These included the show plants that had to be benched for judging and those they wished to sell. At 13h00 that afternoon the judges took over with the unenviable task of deciding which plants were the winners in their classes and which plant was the 'Best on Show'.

While admiring all the beautiful plants in the Exhibition Area, I had one thought in my mind, that behind each of these plants was a proud and devoted grower who must have had sleepless nights wondering if his or her

plant would flower in time and do them proud.

Two hundred and fifty six plants were entered. The quality of the plants on the show was excellent and there were many interesting flowers, both first time entries and some of the old favourites. There were many new colours on display and one could only wonder at them. Peaches, pastels, yellows and oranges were all popular colours, which drew people to them like a moth to a light, and I cannot even begin to describe some of them. A clivia flower certainly has the ability to fill many people with awe and amazement. I saw many magnificent plants that I would dearly love to have in my collection at home. .

Norman Weitz won the 'Best on Show' with his entry in 'Group 2, Miniata Yellow/Cream, Section 2 medium petals'. 'Runner Up' was Gert Esterhuizen who entered in 'Group 1C, Miniata Orange, Section 3 broad petal'. 'Second Runner Up' was Ammie Grobler who entered in 'Group 5C, miniata apricot/salmon (RHS color 28C +28D) Section 3 broad petal'.

On Saturday, the day of the show, the exhibition and sales areas were a hive of activity. There was an air of excitement around as buyers looked for bargains and the sellers vied for customers. New friendships were made and old ones renewed. There was a constant stream of people through the Information Area where volunteers were available to answer any questions from the public and give excellent advice. A special memory will always be the sight of the Sales Area packed with thousands of flowering Clivias in the early morning light, before the area was opened to the public. Sellers had two bumper days at the office and it is the first time that I can recall that most of the sellers were sold out.

In the evening we had a function where the

prizes were handed over by Chris Vlok, Chairman of the Clivia Society.

A big thank you goes to all the committee members, club members and friends who put in so much hard work and effort to make the event the success that it was.

Christo Topham.

KWAZULU NATAL CLIVIA CLUB

Our Clivia show and the stand at the Sunday Tribune Garden Show in Pietermaritzburg in September were both great successes. There were not as many entries at our show as in previous years, but the quality was just as good, if not better. Again, many new plants appeared on show for the first time. The 'Best on Show' was a really super large yellow named 'Quinn's Star' which came from seed purchased by Pat Quinn from Mr. Nakamura. Competition was stiff and after much pondering and discussion, as to which one would walk away with top prize, to the delight of both Brenda and Etzel Nuss, 'Quinn's Star' was the ultimate winner. Etzel walked around with a HUGE smile on his face for the duration of the show and a bottle of champagne was cracked to celebrate. Well, done - a really super plant well 'turned out'. 'Runner-up' went to Coenraad Vermaak "with his really super orange Broad Leaf. Most Points on show also went to Coenraad - well done to both the winners and all others who won prizes. Our youngest exhibitor was Tayla Chubb, who entered her plants in the Novice section and won a first, well done Tayla.

The sales area did very well and many members of the public went off with lovely plants and seeds to swell their collections, also hoping that one would be a winner sometime in the future.

The Sunday Tribune Garden Show was a learning curve for many of the people who

visited our stand. Some people were totally unaware that there are 5 species of clivia and thought that the pendulous species were the "male" clivias and the miniata were the "female" of the species. The question, "If I plant my yellow clivia in amongst my oranges will it revert to orange" was raised by numerous gardeners. They were immediately informed that this was not the case and if their plant had "disappeared" it could possibly have been eaten by moles, did not feel like flowering, rotted off or "walked off" with a new owner! Another point of interest was - seeds were not covered over when planted - but pushed slightly into the soil to germinate - bearing in mind that "in nature" the seeds would fall to the ground and happily germinate in the fallen leaves and humus around the parent plants.

Well, most of us are now busy pollinating the last of our blooms. It is time to re-pot, plant out last year's seedlings and prepare plants that will hopefully walk away with the main prize for the shows in 2005.

Thanks to all the helpers at both shows and a special and sad "Goodbye" to 'founder members' of the KZN Club, Des and Elizabeth Andersson, who have taken up residence in Australia to be closer to family. Both will be sorely missed, and we wish them both a happy time 'Down under'. Happy clivia growing.

Val Thurston.

SOUTPANSBERG CLIVIA INTEREST GROUP

the Dutch Reformed Church, together with the Soutpansberg Clivia interest group decided in 2003 to hold an annual Clivia Festival. In light of the successful first Festival held in August 2003, this was seen as an opportunity to market the town, the area and its natural resources.

Our festival, is small with all the associated

teething pains, but we would like to gradually enlarge it over the next few years. We already extended the festival to a 3-day show (10-12 September), with Saturday 11 September as the highlight. (Hopefully we can become known as the "Clivia town" like Bloemfontein is known as the "Rose City"... One has dreams!) Marketing is done locally, provincially and nationally and we really try to include people from all walks of life. A large part of the local community as well as the district is already involved.

As in 2003, the festival had a flower arrangement section, clivia sales and a plant show. This year the festival included the following: a florist workshop (day before the official show), clivia bouquets in the businesses in town, a miniature clivia garden, food stalls, clivia products (T-shirts, towels, pillows etc.) and entertainment. Children also had the opportunity to participate with a poster competition for high school children, Miss Clivia Petite (girls 4-8 years), children's bouquet competition and a colouring-in competition (4-8 year-olds) and a Kiddies garden. As Soutpansberg Dutch Reformed church celebrated its jubilee, there were several activities on the program for that specific purpose, such as the unveiling of a memorial tablet, a gala concert evening, a special sermon and Sunday tea amongst all the lovely show plants.

If the comments in the visitors' book can be anything to go by the festival was a great success, with visitors from as far as Gauteng. The positive opinions of the judges in the different categories gave valuable information to competitors. Mrs. Bezuidenhout from Pietersburg/Polokwane (she also presented the workshop), judged the 2 categories in the florist division for Beginners: 'Feathered Clivias' and Advanced: 'Clivias, bells and pebbles'. The 'Best on show' bouquet was arranged by Mrs, Greta Fourie,

In the plant show there were also 2 cate-

gories viz. gardeners and professionals (nurseries and club members) with 12 sub-divisions. Mrs. Henriette Stroh from Pretoria had the difficult task of choosing the 3 best plants on the show. Third place went to Mr. Mattheus Wessels (gardener), second was Mrs. Olive Brummer (club member and no.1 on the clivia route) and first place went to Herman and Amanda Van Rensburg (Sandfontein Clivia Kwekery and no.2 on the clivia route).

Even though dog-tired at the end of the second festival the organisers have already started planning for 'Clivia Festival 2005'. It will be held over the last weekend of August 2005. Similar activities are planned with a few pleasant surprises. We hope that everyone with a love for the beautiful forest lilies will want to spend a relaxing weekend with us here in the Soutpansberg.

Anneke Stroebel
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NORTHERN KWAZULU-NATAL INTEREST GROUP

Our show which was held on the 11th September 2004 at the Newcastle Technicon, was well attended, extraordinary and something to remember. The Technicon, which was perfectly situated to accommodate our visitors as well as all the beautiful clivias.

Our show results were as follows:

Best on show: Ndwedwe Globe - a stunning orange owned by Shaun Chubb originating from the wild.

Runner up: A beautiful pastel owned by Ebb and Clive Graham.

There were really stunning Clivias presented to show and all and sundry were impressed

in one way or another. A special thanks to Shaun Chubb and his fellow members of the KZN Club, who exhibited great clivias which enhanced our show greatly.

The sales area was well supported where sellers chatted and advised folks freely.

We would like to thank the new members, public, sponsors and media of Newcastle and surrounding areas who supported us during the show and of course our wonderful committee members that made the show a dream come true. The possibilities and challenges for the club can really be a motivation to members.

Last but not least, a big thank you to Shaun Chubb and Roy Thurston who undertook the judging duties.

We endeavour to create a greater awareness and interest of clivias.

Hot tie Human

FREE STATE CLIVIA INTEREST GROUP

The Free State Clivia Interest Group held their exhibition at the Bloemfontein Primary School on the 7 September 2004.

There were 107 beautiful clivias on show at the school. The quality of the plants was outstanding and there were many young plants on display. The interest in clivias was demonstrated by visitors from as far a field as Welkom, Kimberley, Jan Kempdorp and Kroonstad. Visitors as well as members enjoyed the day. There was much discussion and laughter concerning clivias and many ideas were exchanged. Several new members joined the group, the youngest being 11 years old. Thanks to all the members for their support.

We hope that Clivia interest in the Free State will grow from strength to strength. More people are attending meetings and some are considering becoming members in the New

Year. (The workshops for new clivia enthusiasts were attended by 10-15 people).

We intend holding the show in the second weekend of September next year as we hope more clivias will be in flower then. May many more members display their plants next year?

Hennie van der Mescht

LOWVELD CLIVIA INTEREST GROUP

The Lowveld Clivia Interest Group was inaugurated in November 2003, less than a year ago, and our first show was held in September 2004. Due to an exceptionally cold winter in the Lowveld there were many fears that our plants would not be ready for the show which was planned for the 11th and 12th of September. Some of our member's plants flowered well before the show and other member's plants only flowered after the show. Such is the nature of planning a Clivia Show!

Twenty members (out of a membership of 42) entered 218 plants. Membership numbers rose to 52 during the show and approximately 530 visitors attended to view the plants displayed in the hall of Bergvlam Hoerskool.

According to several judges and other members of the Northern Clivia Club, the quality of plants shown was very high. The 'Best on Show' was a yellow exhibited by Geoff Meyer. First and second runner up plants belonged to Dr Paul Kloeck, one of the founder members of the Interest Group. The high quality plants with peach flowers shown by Chris Welgemoed also deserve special mention.

A Miss Clivia beauty pageant was also hosted by the Interest Group to serve as a way of introducing the Interest Group and Clivia's to the general public. Miss Clivia was crowned

at a gala evening on Saturday the 11th of September.

A very big - THANK YOU - to all the judges/visitors from the Northern Clivia Club and the members of the Lowveld Clivia Interest Group that went out of their way in the organisation of the show and the beauty pageant. The public in the Lowveld have rightly taken notice of our Interest Group and a Clivia show will become an annual item on the calendar for the Lowveld.

Daan Dekker.

Chairperson Lowveld Clivia Interest Group.

CAPE CLIVIA CLUB

The Cape Clivia Club held their show at the Bellville Civic Centre on 18 & 19 September 2004.

This year has been a good flowering year for Clivia, but as usual the unpredictable Cape weather limited some growers from exhibiting. This however did not affect the Show and we had a superb display as usual.

Our members look forward to Show time and this year was particularly busy as we had displays at two other Shows in Cape Town, one prior to our Show and one a week after.

The Show was well supported with an increase from 18 exhibitors in 2003 to 22 in 2004. Entries increased from 206 last year to 353 this year. There were 25 classes listed in our show schedule. All classes were well contested apart from Class 8 (*Clivia miniata* dark yellow) which only attracted two entries, Class 15 (*Clivia* species other than *C. miniata*) 3 entries and Class 20 (*C. miniata* in flower broad leaf) 4 entries. We were privileged to have Mrs. Blaser exhibit her *Clivia miniata* orange (Class 17 - *Clivia* specimen plant - three or more flowering) - quite an achievement at age 100 years!

Coen and Dine Calitz won the 'Best on Show' with their magnificent pastel. They were also awarded the best 'Novice on Show'. The 'Runner-up to Best on Show' was Mick Dower's spectacular broad petal yellow.

The number of paying persons visiting the Show was 1509 which was down on last year's number probably due to the weather on the Saturday which was cold and wet. The sale of plants however increased by approximately 30% which we attribute to the fact that there were a great deal more flowering plants for sale. Two raffles were held, one on each day, which was a great success in terms of generating interest and funds. A total of 27 new members joined at the Show.

Once again members of the Indigenous Bulb Growers Association (IBSA) displayed a very interesting selection of bulbs in flower which provided an additional point of interest for visitors.

Financially we were well within budget, according to Ian Brown our Treasurer, and a meeting has been planned to revise our show schedule for next year to accommodate the needs of all exhibitors.

JOHN WINTER
2004 Show Chairman

METRO INTEREST GROUP

The Metro Show was held on the 18th and 19th September 2004 at the Garden World Nursery, Honeydew, on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

The change of venue as well as the better publicity contributed to the best turnout we have had in our four years of show presentations. The beautiful tropical plants, at the entrance into the nursery, surrounding the old homestead and the position of the nurs-

ery, out of town, gave a very relaxed country feel to the show. We were able to hold the display of plants and the sales stalls together, under one cover, in an area separate from the main nursery.

An excellent display of Clivia of all colours and shapes ensured that the public was satisfied with the range of Clivia flowers and plants available. The Clivia colours in greatest demand by the public were the pastels such as pinks, peaches and apricots and the request for reds exceeded the supply. Yellow Clivia sold out and the average price for these was about R100.00. The Clivia sellers were pleased with their sales and by the Sunday afternoon most of the stalls were virtually empty.

A word of thanks to Ernie Hobbs and his team for the judging of the plants exhibits. This took place after an enjoyable supper, under lights especially installed for the judging.

The show champion this year was a cream/yellow Clivia belonging to Dawie Strydom. This plant was remarkable with a big umbel and exceptionally large flowers. Dawie also won 'Third Best on Show' with another cream/yellow plant with large flowers. 'Second Best on Show' was awarded to a lovely pink Clivia belonging to Chris Viljoen.

The public showed great interest in the germination and cultivation of Clivia. The information table provided assistance and literature for both the beginner and the specialist. A special word of thanks to those helpers who manned the information table.

With the enthusiasm shown by visitors and the number of enquiries received, the increased availability of the less common plants, the future of the Clivia in the Johannesburg area is assured.

Glynn Middlewick.

EASTERN PROVINCE CLIVIA CLUB

The Eastern Province Clivia Club's show report appeared in the previous newsletter.

Comments from Lester de Beer on his plant that was awarded 'Best Beginner on Show' as well as 'Runner-up to Best on Show' in Port Elizabeth 2004

I received the plant some nine years ago as a sucker from an elderly lady who stayed in the holiday resort of Keurbooms in the Southern Cape. She brought the mother plant with her when she moved from Bloemfontein during 1992.

When the sucker flowered for the first time in 1997 we realized that the flower colour was different to the ordinary orange and indeed a lovely pastel. It was only after I joined the E.P Clivia Club seven months ago and really became interested in growing Clivia as a hobby that I started with regular watering and feeding with Hyperfeed and Seagro, and of course special TLC to make up for all the years that it had been neglected. What a lovely surprise it was when it was awarded 'Best Beginner on Show' as well as the 'Runner-up to Best on Show'.

Lester & Rienie

Comments from Margie Young on her plant which was awarded 'Runner-up to the Best Beginner on Show' in Port Elizabeth in 2004

My Peach Clivia was grown from seed that I was given by Alick Mcleman now living in New Zealand and previously a member of the KwaZulu-Natal Clivia Club.

The plant is four years old and the seed was from a 'Chubb's Peach'! My methods of cultivation aren't different but I did keep it in a dark room for a week before the show.

Margie Young.

Comments from Chari Malan on his plant which was awarded 'Best on Show' - Port Elizabeth 2004

This magnificent large broad-tepal peach was a cross I made between a Nakamura 'Vico Yellow' hybrid and a 'Chubb's Peach'. The plant took four years to flower and this was its second flower. Siblings of this cross have done well in the peach category at all shows where they have been exhibited. I use Osmocote "High K" in a mix that consists of 60% coarse bark, 30% coarse river sand and 10% Loam.

Charl Malan.

GARDEN ROUTE CLIVIA INTEREST GROUP

The Garden Route Clivia Interest Group's show report appeared in the last newsletter.

Comments from Charl Malan on his plant which was awarded 'Runner-up to best on Show' - George 2004

This lovely large broad tepal 'Vico Yellow' was grown from seed obtained from Yoshikazu Nakamura in 1995. It won 'Best on Show' in Cape Town in 2002. The plant took four years to flower. I use Osmocote "High K" in a mixture of 60% coarse bark, 30% coarse river sand and 10% Loam.

Charl Malan.

CLIVIA SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

The newly formed Clivia Society of Australia held its first Australian show during Toowoomba's annual Carnival of Flowers which runs for a week in September each year.

The six-day show was held in an area behind a popular Toowoomba garden nursery, Walsh's Seeds and Garden Centre. In the same area was a giant Bonsai show. Both shows were free to the public.

The organising committee was amazed at the steady stream of visitors to the show, especially considering there was another private display in a shopping centre and several displays in some of the champion Toowoomba gardens.

Visitors were treated to a superb collection of clivias from Toowoomba and surrounding area growers. Highlights were a hanging basket stand made by a member, complete with a variety of clivia baskets, a brilliant tulip type yellow exhibited by Coral and Kev Larsen, a beautiful peach coloured clivia owned by Ian Anderson, a nice orange multi-petal owned by Brian Steven and a lovely variegated clivia from Kevin Walters. Clivias in hanging baskets are becoming very popular in Toowoomba, especially the midget types.

Although small private displays have been held in Toowoomba previously, this is the first time a group has banded together to organise a show. The idea was first mooted only last July when a meeting was called of interested clivia enthusiasts in the area. The meeting was attended by 10 keen growers, most only novices to the clivia world. From this meeting an organising committee was formed consisting of chairperson/publicity Brian Steven, secretary/publicity Bruce Newton and treasurer Coral Larsen, and NO MONEY!! With only one further meeting before the show (but many phone calls!) the show was organised.

A big thank-you to the Clivia Society of Australia for making available a brand new coloured society banner, Coral and Kev Larsen from Larsen's Warm Climate Bulbs, who supplied most of the props for the show, Kevin Walters for his collection of photographs from around the world that adorned the walls, Huxley Althaus who supplied the hanging stand and of course the keen members who manned the show, sold raffle tickets and answered the many questions on clivia culture from the public, A

plant raffle was conducted with three clivia prizes donated by members. To sell over \$1000 worth of tickets, combined with plant sales of over \$6000 was a truly amazing feat for the group. Besides the terrific clivia display, there was an area for plant sales, mostly flowering plants.

The cost to the society for holding the show at the venue was 10% of plant sales. (The plant nursery did very well thank you!) 10% of sales went to the society. With the proceeds of the raffle, plant sales and donations, the Toowoomba group can confidently go into next year's show knowing that they have a working fund. The group will now concentrate on updating props, signage and advertising for next year's show (the venue has been re-booked).

From the response from the public and prospects of more new members, all augurs well for the future of the Toowoomba group of the Clivia Society of Australia and next year's show. The group can only improve on its first attempt, and already new ideas have come forward. Anyone who wishes to attend the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers and see some of the best spring gardens and clivias in Australia should note that the date is always the last full week in September.

For any information required please contact:

Brian Steven 07 46358848,
email brianmerle@ozemail.com.au

Bruce Newton 07 46372096,
email brucenewton@bigpond.com or

Coral and Kev Larsen phone 07 5426 7127,
email larsensbulbs@bigpond.com

Brian Steven

NEW ZEALAND CLIVIA CLUB

Auckland Show (Oct 9/10)

The 2004 Auckland Clivia Show was again

held at the Auckland Regional Botanical Gardens. Bad weather held off and the crowds poured in Saturday morning. It was like shopping at the local mall at the post-Christmas Sales! It was so exciting meeting and putting a face to many of the new members.

The show was a resounding success and the display plants were stunning. It was encouraging to see a large number of hobbyists displaying their plants for the first time. As we don't yet have competitions, the Club ran a 'Peoples Favourite Clivia' competition. Visitors to the exhibition are asked 'If you could take one clivia home with you, which one would it be?' The winner was Alick McLeman's plant - a Christo Lotter F2. Runner-up was David Brundell's clivia 'Honey Moon'.

Workshops were again held over the weekend. Topics included: Clivia in South Africa and the species, Basics of Clivia growing, Hybridising and Nomenclature. Terry Hatch also conducted a 'Ramble through the Exhibits' where Terry explained the clivia in detail. This was extremely popular with the public. Visitors were able to purchase an array of clivia plants and seeds to take home with them from the various growers. Favourites on display this year were the apricots, the creams and the interspecifics. We certainly have a broad spectrum of clivia shape, colour and size!

On Saturday afternoon we held the AGM. Keith Hammett was again elected Chairman unopposed and we expect he will carry out his functions as the superb Chairman he has been for the past year. Treasurer is Alick McLeman and Di Smith is Secretary. Following the AGM we held the annual dinner. This was a fantastically fun affair. We began the evening with a lucky dip of seeds donated by the lovely John van der Linde. With only numbers on the packets, guests did not know what they were receiving.

There were 'ooohs and aaaahs' when they were given the seed descriptions later in the evening. Grateful thanks to John for his generosity. David Brundell gave an educational and interesting power-point talk on his recent trip to Japan and China. A fun time was had by all!

The first Regional Show was trialed last year in Whangarei. The Club wanted to "take Clivia to the Kiwis" and not expect them to come to us. The main purpose of these shows is to inspire, inform and perhaps coerce the public to indulge in Clivia (hopefully to the point of addiction). This year we added Tauranga (Bay of Plenty) and New Plymouth (Taranaki) to the regionals.

Tauranga (Oct 16) - Ian and Barbara Duncalf hosted the Clivia Show at their nursery, Parva Plants in Te Puna. The exhibition was held in the sorting shed and exhibition plants were exceptional. Keith Hammett was selling plants and of course had his usual high standard of blooms on display. It was a fun day with many of the local members assisting. The highlight for me personally, was the new (*crytanthiflora* x *miniata*) that Ian had named 'Diane' in honour of a significant birthday I'm having this year. It was an honour and privilege to see such a beautiful plant with my name on it.

Whangarei (Oct 16/17) - Again this year the show was hosted at beautiful sprawling Nymet Gardens (Colin and Jean Sanders). Alick McLeman, Sharron Booth and David Brundell were displaying and selling at the Show. Holding the show in such beautiful surroundings is a bonus as the public is able to see the clivia growing outside as they walked around the gardens.

New Plymouth (Oct 23/24) - Tony Barnes and John Sole hosted the Clivia Show for 2 days over the weekend. Ngamamaku Gardens is set 15kms out of New Plymouth in a small village called Oakura. The gardens

sprawl over many acres and border the Mt Egmont National Park. They are situated only 15 minutes from the wettest place in NZ

- hence the prolific growth there. Clivias grow under and over many of the banks beside the stream. Tony has 3 levels of shadehouse full of stunning Clivia plants and seedlings. They overflow outside and many are potted and growing happily under the native trees and shrubs waiting to be sold. Keith and Alick were selling along with Tony. The display was again magnificent. Keith and Alick had many display plants that were just coming into bloom.

In conclusion, we were encouraged by the intense interest building up amongst Kiwis for clivia. We have a number of new members and of course membership is growing at a rapid rate. Clivia grow very well in our climate outside and inside, as far south as Wellington (the bottom of the North Island). We are very fortunate to have a plant in our country that requires such little attention - dig, plant and leave - that's our motto and how easy is that? The volcanic soil is favourable, the drainage is great, and the rainfall is more than adequate. Mealy bugs are easily treated and snails are soaked in local beer! Thanks South Africa for sharing your wonderful Clivias with us!

Di Smith
Secretary

New Zealand Clivia Club Inc
nzclivia@clear.net.nz
1 November 2004

NORTH AMERICAN CLIVIA SOCIETY

3rd International Huntington Clivia Symposium

Sponsored by the North American Clivia Society, Pacific Bulb Society and the Huntington Botanical Gardens.

Registration is now open for the 3rd

International Huntington Clivia Symposium & Show, *March 26th & 27th 2005*, at the Huntington Libraries, Art Galleries and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108, USA.

The Symposium Registration Form is on the Web at: <http://www.northamericancliviasociety.org/> and select the link to "The Registration Form is now available."

Dr. James E. Shields,

President, North American Clivia Society, inc.

P.O. Box 92, Westfield, IN 46074, USA

Tel. ++ 1-317-896-3925

E-mail: <jshields104@insightbb.com

<http://www.northamericancliviasociety.Org/index.html>

AMERICAN CLIVIA SOCIETY

Currently, we have totally rebuilt our web site and the Discussion Board now has the functionality to attach pictures. There is a link to the Discussion Board on each page <http://www.AmericanCliviaSociety.org> and users- of the board do not need to be ACS members at this time. In fact we have set up areas on the board for other Clubs / Societies to post news, shows and other events as well as just to talk Clivia. The ACS site is featuring the plants of Tony Barnes at this time as the main graphic on each page. Anyone is welcome to submit pictures for us to show case the plants they work with.

Kimberly James has returned to San Antonio, Texas from her trip to Toronto, Canada. She was even able to thaw out a few friends there for membership. Cobus Roos had sent us several articles to post on the web site and we will be selling seed from Tony Barnes (Pastels, Yellows and Reds) as part of our site theme and fundraiser. We would also like to thank the New Zealand Clivia Club for all the help they have provided and for stay-

my Hit; course with us. Whether an effort of their whole club or not, the help Di Smith has given ACS speaks highly of the quality and character of their organization.

"ACS Taking The High Ground, Making One Friend At A Time"

Sincerely,

Janies B. Black:
 President: American Clivia Society
<http://www.AmericanCliviaSociety.org>

For Sale

Advertisements. Tariffs for advertising in the Clivia Society Newsletter:

Smalls (1 to 6 lines):	R25.00
Smalls (7 to 10 lines):	R30.00
Quarter page:	R70.00
Half page:	R125.00
Full Page:	R250.00
A5 separate page insert:	R600.00
A4 separate page insert:	R800.00

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

From the Clivia Society:

Overseas members can order back volume copies of the yearbooks and newsletters (since 1992) via the society. 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 you contact Bossie de Kock (the treasurer) via e-mail at: bossiedekock@absamail.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, UK, New Zealand and USA members are reminded that they can order via Ken Smith, Dr Hamish Sloan, Di Smith and Michael Morri respectively — see covers for contact detail. 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 6	15
Yearbook 5	15
Yearbook 4	10
Yearbook 3	10
Yearbook 2	10
Yearbook 1	10
Volumes 1(1992) to 11 (2002) of newsletters	10 per volume
Set of volumes 1 to 10	available on request
Hints on growing Clivia - hard copy	3
Hints on growing Clivia - electronic PDF format	2
International membership list - hard copy	2
International membership list - electronic format	No charge

* Including postage and banking charges it paid by credit card Contact Bossie de Kock for quotation re payments made by cheque

Private advertisements:

Clivia species, interspecifics and specialities.

Participate in our coordinated imports and exports of seeds and plants - Asia, ANZ, N. Am. & Eu. Connie Abel, Pretoria, +27-12-3616406 or jcabel@absamail.co.za

Yellow Noggaza 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. 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.

ThurLOW Flora: We have on offer a large variety of carefully bred seedlings and mature plants for sale. We specialize in pastel colours, oddities, species and original wild collected and named clones of clivia. Mail order and visitors welcome. For our latest plant list please contact Sean and Terri Chubb. Tel: 031 7811978 e-mail: terric@iafrica.com We also have available a few hundred different named daylily clones.

Beginner's luck

Many of us are using wire to stake Clivia peduncles bearing a large amount of fruit, large flower heads when exhibiting at shows or even when transporting Clivia plants to and from shows. Wire is normally stored in a roll form by suppliers making it difficult to straighten it properly and neatly. It can, however, be done easily by using the following method:

Cut off a length of 4 - 5 metre, depending on the space you have to work in, fold back the one end of the wire ± 3 cm and lock it thoroughly in the chuck of a speed controlled

drill (the same way you would do with a drill bit) Tie the other end to a solid structure such as a washing line pole, step back with the drill in hand until most of the wire slack has been taken up and start spinning the drill at a slow speed. When the wire is completely straightened release the drill chuck slowly (be very careful of the wire back-spin). Cut the wire to desired lengths. To safeguard against injuries to face when handling plants with stakes, always bend the top end of the stake in a loop.

Willie Le Roux - E.P.C.C.

Cliviamania is a serious disease effecting clivia enthusiasts. Those effected tend to spend most of their day absorbed with clivia activities to the point of addiction - collecting berries, planting seeds, potting on, fertilizing plants, primping and preening them for shows, dividing them up and heaven knows what else! All they can think and speak about is clivia. Many hours are spent just looking at the plants, whether in bloom or not. Some victims are even affected when looking at broad leaves, but most are stricken when clivia in flower.

It appears to strike mostly elderly people over the age of 50 although there are rare cases of youngsters succumbing to the disease. Males appear to be affected more than females. It is highly infectious. It is not known whether it is caused by a virus or by a bacterium and it is not known how it is transmitted. It could be through direct contact, but it appears that most victims have been infected when looking at flowering blooms. The more unusual the colour, the more serious the problem. One therefore suspects that it could be something to do with pollen. Serious cases have been observed when pollen is transmitted by hand from one flower to another instead of leaving it to nature. In severe cases the

pollen has been accrued by unscrupulous means.

People who have caught the disease tend to gather in groups with other similar affected individuals to discuss their malady. The most virulent form seems to be associated with rare colours or unusual shapes of clivias. Yellow, peaches and pastels send the victims into a frenzy. Some suggest it is underpinned by economics with the rarer colours being associated with high prices.

I appeal to all reading this column. How can we get rid of this disease?

Lily Borer (*Brithys pancratii*).



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Clivia Society

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