

ISSN 1819-1460

CLIVIA NEWS

Quarterly Newsletter
of the Clivia Society

VOLUME 21 - NUMBER 3 | JULY - SEPTEMBER 2012



CLIVIA NEWS



The Clivia Society www.cliviasociety.org

The Clivia Society caters for *Clivia* enthusiasts throughout the world. It is the umbrella body for a number of constituent Clivia Clubs and interest Groups which meet regularly in South Africa and elsewhere around the world. In addition, the Society has individual members in many countries, some of which also have their own Clivia Clubs. An annual Yearbook and quarterly Newsletters are published by the Society. For information on becoming a member and / or for details of Clivia Clubs and Interest Groups contact the Clivia Society secretary or where appropriate, the International Contacts, at the addresses listed in the inside back cover.

The objectives of the Clivia Society

1. To coordinate the interests, activities and objectives of constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members;
2. To participate in activities for the protection and conservation of the genus *Clivia* in its natural habitat, thereby advance the protection of the natural habitats and naturally occurring populations of the genus *Clivia* in accordance with the laws and practices of conservation;
3. To promote the cultivation, conservation and improvement of the genus *Clivia* by:
 - 3.1 The exchange and mutual dissemination of information amongst Constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members;
 - 3.2 Where possible, the mutual exchange of plants, seed and pollen amongst Constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members; and
 - 3.3 The mutual distribution of specialised knowledge and expertise amongst Constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members;
4. To promote the progress of and increase in knowledge of the genus *Clivia* and to advance it by enabling research to be done and by the accumulation of data and dissemination thereof amongst constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members;
5. To promote interest in and knowledge of the genus *Clivia* amongst the general public; and
6. To do all such things as may be necessary and appropriate for the promotion of the above-mentioned objectives.

More information on the Clivia Society available on
www.cliviasociety.org

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ADVERTISEMENTS

WILL ANYONE WISHING TO ADVERTISE OR WHO KNOWS OF POTENTIAL SPONSORS OR ADVERTISERS PLEASE COMMUNICATE WITH SAKKIE NEL IN THIS REGARD - SEE INNER COVER FOR CONTACT DETAILS.

The Clivia Society Newsletter started as a black on white news-sheet dated July 1992, numbered Volume 1 number 1, called 'Clivia Club'. It formed a means of communication for people interested in the plant genus *Clivia*. It was edited/written by the late Nick Primich with a frequency of 3, 5, 8 & 5 during the first 4 years, using the publication month in the volume.

The frequency was fixed on four annually with Vol. 5 No 1 of March 1996.

The date changed to the southern hemisphere seasons with Vol. 8 No 1 of Autumn 1999. The first three used yellow paper as cover. The name changed to 'CLIVIA CLUB NEWSLETTER' with Vol. 9 No 1 Autumn 2000 with full colour photos on the cover pages. Another name change to 'CLIVIA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER' came with Vol. 10 No 4 Summer 2000, and in 2005 reverted to a quarterly number.

CLIVIA NEWS is the continuation of this series.



EDITORIAL

The *miniata* flower season in the Southern Hemisphere is over for another year – some are sighing with relief and others are sad. It certainly has been fun, seeing lots of amazingly beautiful flowers, meeting new people who are interested in taking up *Clivias*, and seeing and chatting to faraway visitors doing the 'show circuit'.

News generally is that shows attendance numbers were up, the quality of plants shown and sold were better than in past years and that sales were good – especially of good quality plants. It proves that quality sells – the buying public is certainly becoming more discerning and buying up the value curve.

Congratulations Anna Meyer and Tino Ferero (both from Pretoria, South Africa) who had their birthdays in September, both stalwarts of the *clivia* fraternity.

Thank you for the various positive comments that I received on my first issue of *Clivia News* as Editor. Thank you to all the contributors, and future contributors who make the publication. I also understand that there have been concerns that there was too much South Africa related content. Unfortunately I can't publish what I don't receive.

A question I have heard a few people ask is 'What is the future of *Clivias*?' In my view, after seeing the increased interest and activity at the shows, *Clivias* have a beautiful future. It is an amazing plant with immense potential to keep us in wonder and occupied for a long time. We need to keep it dynamic, ever changing – stasis results in the 'mealy bugs' creeping in. Each one of us respectively contributes in our unique ways to our family being a family that people want to stay / remain in or which people want to join. An extended family group that accommodates from



PIC CLAUDE FELBERT

BACK COVER PHOTO - Appleblossom (Q5 x Q4) was voted most popular by the public at the '12 CCC Show. Proud owner is John van der Linde.

great grandparents to the youngest siblings, i.e. where every members' strengths are used and respective needs satisfied. Defining success is part of the challenge: Individually, as well as collectively. A few basic requirements include honesty, a problem solving mind-set, mutual respect, the desire to succeed, focus, energy, and having fun.

There are numerous constituencies to serve through the *Clivia News*: The enthusiasts; the breeders; the collectors; the young; the old; the scientists; the hobbyists; the dreamers etc. There is space for all of us in the fraternity.

I heard a fantastic line in a movie the past month: "don't just see the obstacles, see the magic". As long as there is hope there is a future. ▼

Joubert van Wyk

Editor – *Clivia News*

P.S. Cut-off date for submissions for the last Clivia News of 2012: Saturday, 15 December.

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▼ **PRINTING** UVO Printng, Pretoria Tel: +27 12-342 1978/9

IN MEMORIAM

A tribute to Mias Vollgraaff

Whether Wessel Pretorius or Johan Afrika founded the fossil version of clivias in 1999, which was later named *C. mirabilis* by Dr. John Rourke is not important. What is important is the fact that the plant and its beautiful flowers were known to the Vollgraaff family since the early '60's and growing in their garden on the farm Klein Kobee in the Klein Kobee

Mountains adjacent to the Oorlogskloof Nature Reserve. At the time Mias did not know the name or that it was in fact a clivia! Visits to the colonies of plants in the habitat in Oorlogskloof Nature Reserve by Dr. John Rourke, the late Mick Dower, John Winter and John van der Linde eventually led to it that Hein Grebe be-friend Mias and his wife Erica in 2004.

Hein said that he will never forget all the initial disappointments he experienced in trying to track down *mirabilis* populations outside Oorlogskloof. "Mias and his brother, Izak, sounded so convinced and sure about the clivias that I had to believe them. I have never seen *mirabilis* in real life, but when we stopped close to the plants and he pointed to where the plants are, it was not necessary to have a close up look to identify them as *C. mirabilis*. Mias amazed me with



Mias and Erica Volgraaff

his self-taught experience of nature, plants and geology. He made many farms in the northern and western cape farmable by boring boreholes to put up windmills. Mias bought his first drilling machine in 1978 and started Mek Drilling in 2000.

Many *C. mirabilis* seeds from Klein Kobee are growing on all continents – soon they will start to flower and the owners will thank Mias Vollgraaff

for the happiness they bring into their hearts and the beauty of a faraway country".

Ian reported that Mias and his family were always welcoming from the first time he met them. "Extremely hospitable and generous with their hospitality and sharing the joy of their *mirabilis*. Spending the night alone at the old Klein Kobee farm under starlit skies almost surrounded by *mirabilis* is a joyous memory I shall always treasure. As is the time Mias spent with me travelling to the sites – and getting stuck in the river! Such memories of a great gentleman. I also enjoyed

learning how he picked a *mirabilis* flower for his girl friend's mother in the early 1960s. She liked it so much that she asked



him to go back for the plant. Possibly the first *mirabilis* in cultivation? Happily, that girl friend later became his wife.

At home and at work they always seemed a close family and I am sure he will be greatly missed by all, especially by his caring wife Erica."

Mias's interest in people from all over was just as big as his interest in all plants and living beings! He knew the veldt and the fynbos by heart.

In October 2007 I was privileged to be in a touring party of seven clivia enthusiasts who visited the sites over a period of five days.



On this visit Professor Johan Spies collected leaf material at Klein Kobee for research purposes. Again in September 2010 John van der Linde and I led a touring party of eight people for an unforgettable habitat tour. This would later prove to be my last physical contact with this great and dear friend!

Like Erica, Andy, Hermi, Jonathan, their wives and kids, all his clivia friends shall miss Mias greatly.

Our sincerest sympathy to them all for a tragic loss." ▼

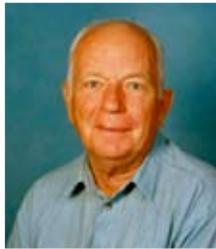
Sakkie Nel, Hein Grebe and Ian Coates

Goodbye to a great friend - Des Andersson

I was introduced to Des by Sean Chubb when the KZN Clivia Club had its first meeting way back when! I immediately thought 'now this is a great guy'. He was a kind, thoughtful and extremely generous person especially when it came to parting with some of his special clivias. He gave me excellent 'starting' plants from which I have bred some great show winners, wonderful and useful advice not only on clivias but life in general – a true mentor.

Des loved all plants and had an amazing collection of orchids, aloes, clivias and other interesting and unusual plants. He even went down the road one night and snipped off a piece of pink *Erythrina* which I had spotted while in the area – which I had to have for my collection – managed to get it to strike – which now grows happily in my garden at Kloof.

His "CLIVIA B & B" facility was always open to me each winter, when I would select out my best clivias to flower on for the show



Des Andersson

and take them to his home for tender loving care during the winter months.

Around August I would pester him on a weekly basis to enquire as to what was 'happening' what was "pushing" and when could I bring them home? Thank you Des, that was the only way I had something to put onto the show as clivias just did not flower at Tongaat,

along the humid north coast of KZN.

Des was a great family man and always made time and gave of his love and attention to his children, grandchildren and of course, Elizabeth, who stood by him through thick and thin, surrounded in every room in the home by clivias, seeds, seedlings, dogs and canaries.

I shall miss you Des, and to Elizabeth, my deepest sympathy, have strength and may the Lord keep you safe and watch over you at this sad time. ▼

Love

Val and Roy Thurston

CLIVIA SOCIETY

THE FUTURE OF CLIVIA CLUBS

By Christo Topham

With the success of the Clivia Forum and the Facebook of the Northern Clivia Club in mind I ask myself the question "What is the future of traditional Clivia Clubs?" Before starting to answer the question we have to look at the challenges that traditional clubs are facing. According to me the challenges are the following:

- Growth in member numbers
- Speaking to the needs of the members
- Ageing of members
- Time
- To find common grounds, etc.

In my opinion if we do not find solutions for the challenges facing traditional clubs, traditional clubs will struggle with decreasing of members. There will always be a need for traditional clubs as we have people that will have a need to come together to socialize around their hobby. What can we do to address the needs of the time poor clivia enthusiasts?

By the virtual route that the Northern Clivia Club and the Clivia Forum have went, is that not the route we have to go? I do not see the virtual route as a danger for the existence of

the traditional clubs. I feel there is a place for both and that the one can complement each other. The virtual way creates or addresses the needs of time poor enthusiasts that they can connect and interact with each other 24/7 which traditional clubs cannot do.

If traditional clubs adds a virtual channel to their armour they will address the wider needs of their existing members. By this they can also open the doors for the younger generation to join them. We have to make use of all the ways to interact with our members even if it means that clubs have to communicate 24/7 with all their members.

Is virtual clubs only a dream for the future? No, it is not. The Clivia Forum already establishes a virtual club where the clivia enthusiasts worldwide can communicate 24/7. Members of different existing clubs are already members of the virtual club. I think we have to see ways to co-operate with them and learn from them. There are a lot of common grounds between the traditional and virtual clubs.

I challenge the management of the clubs to think about how they can address the different needs of the clivia enthusiasts. ▼

CLIVIA BREEDING

How do you explain this phenomenon? Part II

By Sakkie Nel

In Newsletter Volume 16 Number 2 of April - June 2007, Professor Hannes Robbertse wrote about the variegated seedling which chose to rather live as an albino, off the roots of his totally green mate, which on the other hand has shed all its variegation.

In 2004 I pollinated one of my best orange miniatas, which is renowned to produce some variegated seedlings with an Eric Heine yellow marked "Riël Y



Variegated & Albino 2012

Hybrid". As I did not harvest many seeds, I only grew a few seedlings of which one was variegated. It is now five years after the 2007 article and the albino barely survives!

When the albino succeeds in producing two new leaves, the oldest two leaves starts to die back from their tips. The green plant, as you notice from the picture is doing well and proudly produced a first flower this year! When re-potting it from the square pot in the 2007

photo I noticed that the green plant has a very good set of roots.

By hook or by crook this poor little albino succeeded in surviving for 8 years as a parasite after it eloped from the variegated plant! Although the umbel is small, being a first flower, the quality of the flower shows much promise for the future. If Prof. Hannes wants to do more research on this one, I am prepared to let him have it! ▼

Early results of interspecific breeding

By Piet Theron

As I only started with my Clivia collection in 2002 only a few clivia plants were available locally. These were mostly F1 oranges. Yellow interspecifics were, as today, very sought after. The only plants that were in my possession were a *C. gardenii* x Yellow *C. miniata* (Fig 1) that I received from Ian Vermaak as a seedling and a *C. caulescens* x Chubb's peach (Fig 2). When the two plants flowered in 2004 Geraldine pollinated them and the seed were germinated in 2005.

My first aim was to breed my own yellow interspecific. The green stemmed seedlings were

religiously kept but as has been experienced often it was actually the pigmented stems that held some of the better results. Geraldine kindly assisted me with the cross pollination. She used a small brush which probably resulted in self pollination and cross pollination. In retrospect this was probably not so bad, as it lead to virtually 4 different crosses made at the same time.

I know that the really serious breeder will go to great length to guarantee a specific cross. The unknown surprise factor is however then largely eliminated. Lately I have been using a toothpick for ease of application.

First flowering was before 4 years. A multitude of characteristics were evident on growth form and pattern and flower shape and colour.

Results are shown here as they have flowered over the years.

The first to flower was (Fig 3) a Versicolor that reminded me of "Chanel" that was the best interspecific around for so many years. The second to flower (Fig 4) was an orange that



Figure 1. *C. gardenii* x Yellow *C. miniata*



Figure 2. *C. caulescens* x Chubb's peach



Figure 3. Red outside and Peach inside



Figure 4. Orange with ghosting



Figure 5. Yellow multipetal interspecific



Figure 6. Yellow interspecific



Figure 7. Yellow like small *C. miniata* interspecific



Figure 8. Pink Interspecific

somehow seemed a little odd. This manifested itself as ghosting on subsequent flowering on the inside of the petals. However this seems to be an attribute that get's lost on a narrow petal such as shown. The third one (Fig 5) flowered last year 2011 and surprised me with 40% multipetal yellow flowers. (Fig 6) 2011 has a better yellow flower with flaring although an untidy leaf distribution. (Fig 7) also a yellow 2012 is looking more like a small *C. miniata* especially the umbel arrangement.

(Fig 8) The Pink Interspecific is now flowering and is probably the pick of the lot. Two others have also flowered and are fairly good orange examples. I still have a number of them as they were mostly kept and the results are awaited with anticipation.

To me the big value in this breeding exercise, having the genes of three species thrown into the mix is that you only need to have two Interspecifics to start off. Eventually you may end up with a whole collection of varying nature and then decide what really works for you and what to continue with.

It would be worthwhile to repeat the whole process if you are one of our younger members. Initially select the the best examples of the different species that are available to you, in this instance it does not need to be a very expensive plant. Some of the more experienced members will gladly supply you with pollen if asked.

Up to now the initial parents have not been pollinated with any other pollen, thus I don't have results to compare. The first one flowered before 4 years and the last one now at 7 years. They had not been given the optimum amount of attention to promote quick flowering. On seeing the last one they were all promptly recovered from the garden and varying stages of neglect to be repotted and nurtured , maybe for flowering next year.

Recently Rouzell van Coller also showed breeding results on the forum that elicited the wide variety of results obtained from a specific cross. I hope this stimulates further interest in breeding for improved interspecifics and especially to show the variety that exists. We have to continue looking for the ultimate beauty. ▼

Some breeding results from a multi-petal bronze green throat strain

By John van der Linde

After I joined the Cape section (now the Cape Clivia Club) of the old Clivia Club (now the Clivia Society) I paid my R100 in order to be allocated some of the seed which Mr Nakamura then sent annually from Japan, to be distributed to Club members. In due course my seeds arrived in April 1999, including a number labeled "Multi-petal x multi-petal".

Some of these special seedlings flowered in 2003, all with at least one multi-petal flower, as I recall. One of them had bronze flowers with a strong and permanent green throat. I labeled it 104A in my breeding records. It has subsequently been officially registered as 'Liesbeeck: Royal Flush' (see photo).

I entered it at the 2003 Cape Show even though it had insufficient flowers open on the

day judging took place. I was thrilled to see a note placed next to the plant by the judges with the comment "Shows high potential".

The following year it had a lovely full umbel at show-time, with many multi-petal flowers. It was benched next to Gerrit van Wyk's "Kaneel" (see photo), which has very similar flowers. With the permission of the Show manager, Gerrit and I arranged an after-hours cross-pollination of our plants.

We harvested our seeds in 2005 and swapped a few between us. I also gave some to friends. Gerrit and I have on-grown our seedlings since then. We have both found that many have been slow to flower, with some of mine only now flowering for the first time.

Three flowered for me for the first time in 2009. In each case 104A had been the mother



Liesbeeck Royal Flush (104A)



Kaneel 1 Gerrit van Wyk

plant. I labeled these 205A, 205B and 205C. All had attractive foliage and flowers (CCC colour chart21/22), with green throats.

205A had 7 first flowers, 5 of which had more than 6 petals.

205B had 9 first flowers, 3 being multi-petals.

205C had 5 flowers, all multis, including one with 10 petals.

Other seedlings, including some where Gerrit's 'Kaneel' was the mother plant, flowered in 2010 and 2011. I can confidently say that that these two parents produce multipetal offspring that are true to type, with strong green throats that do not fade with age. I have sibling crossed these F1s but have not yet flowered any F2 seedlings.

I also used 104A in a number of other crosses with other multipetals from the same original batch from Nakamura, and also with other *miniata*. Conventional wisdom at the time was:

- (1) The multipetal (MP) trait would be maternally inherited, even if the pollen parent had only the usual 6 petals.
- (2) Green throats (GT) were maternally inherited.

With the above in mind, here are a few of the most informative results:

Mother plant	Pollen parent	Offspring's flowers
104A	81B orange MP	orange MP cream throat
81B	104A	bronze MP soft GT
104A	Group 1 yellow	orange, all 6 petal, no GT

The result with 81B – admittedly a sample of only one – suggests:

- (1) That (104A) may be good at producing offspring with bronze flowers when used as the pollen parent. This is borne out by the fact that Ian Brown also found that 104A gave rise to bronze flowers when used as pollen parent on a non-bronze mother plant.
- (2) That the "double dose" of MP – from both mother plant and pollen parent – gave rise to siblings with many MP flowers.

The result with the Group 1 yellow pollen parent of all 6-petal orange flowers and no green throats might suggest that (a) one needs a "double dose" of MP to ensure future MP



(205A)(104A x Gerrit's Kaneel)



(205H) (104A x Gerrit's Kaneel)



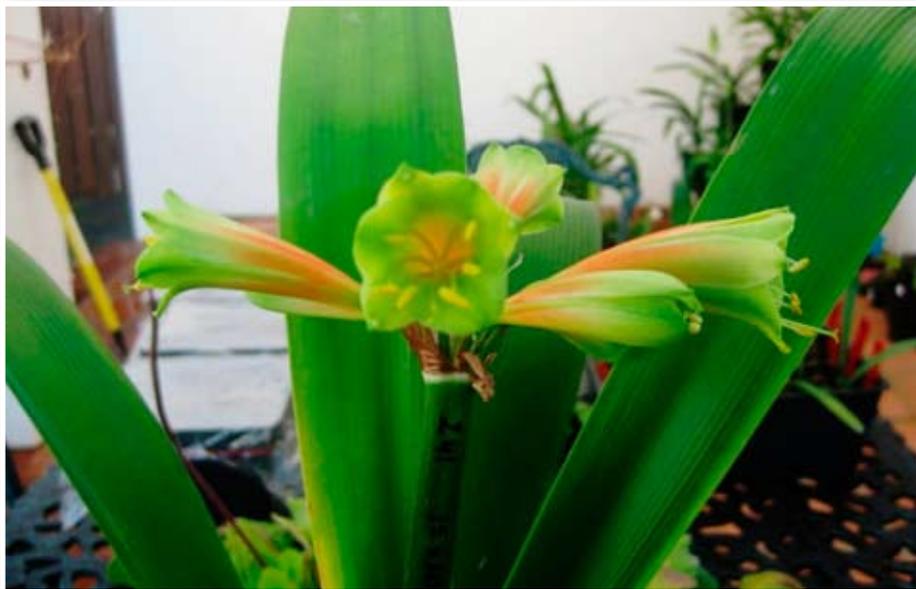
(242) Malachite 157 x Liesbeek Royal Flush 104A

descendants, also, (b) that the pollen parent might play a role in GT inheritance. More results are required to be more definite in the case of my crosses, but remember that your plants may be from a different strain and have different breeding characteristics. I also did an interspecific cross as the first step towards producing flowers with more green in them. I used 'Malachite' (see photo), a well-known

gardenii with a lot of green in the flowers as the mother plant and 104A as the pollen parent. The resultant first flowers (see photo) in 2012 had a solid green interior but both inside and outside "bronzed up" with age. I was intrigued to see that 2 flowers had more than 6 petals. Further work is now in progress. As a first step I selfed the interspecific F1 seedling and also pollinated some of the flowers with



Malachite offshoot



(241) Malachite 157 x Liesbeek Royal Flush 104A



(232C) Kaneel x 104A

pollen from 104A. Results are a long way off. I was fortunate last year to be able to pollinate 104A with pollen from Felicity Weeden's Group

2 green-throated yellow *miniata*, imported from Japan (see photo). My aim is to (1) grow the seedlings from this cross,(2) sibling cross



Felicity's Group 2 Yellow Green Throat

them and then (3) isolate the F2 seedlings with green stems in the hope of obtaining some multi-petal yellows with strong green throats. This is a long term project which I may have to hand over to someone with more years on their side.

One can also learn from negative results; I know that while 104A can be self-pollinated, the resulting seedlings grow even more slowly than those from an outcrossing, and those are slow enough! Also, self-pollination of some of 205A and its siblings has not worked at all leading me to tentatively conclude that maybe these plants from Nakamura's multipetal line

were already quite inbred and that I should try introducing new genes, also to speed up growth.

As a result, I have done a number of outcrossings with unrelated bronze green throats, including one bred from 'Bertie's Bronze' and another from 'Vermaak's Bronze Green Boy'. They have produced seedlings that are growing well. None of these 'partners' were multipetals.

My own results above suggest that I can expect good green throats and maybe bronze flowers but that I should not expect multipetals on the F1 seedlings from these crosses. Now only time will tell... ▼

I am David but I love the Goliaths

By Dawie van Heerden

Once, while spinning at the Gym, I read the following words on a guys T-shirt. "Size does matter". Now don't misunderstand me. I definitely do not want to differ from previous writers in this matter. On the contrary, in many ways I agree with them. Please allow me to explain. Since my first interest in broad leaf clivias, these big bears impressed me a lot.

At one stage, I paid a visit to one of the largest nurseries in Mpumalanga. One of the managers there informed me that they intended to switch over from growing the narrow leaves to the broader ones.

When I mentioned this to my friend and mentor, oom Ammie Grobler, he answered, "Dawie, die mooiste kleure lê in die smal blaartipes." (Ed: '... the nicest colours are in the narrow leaf types').

Perhaps we should follow a more holistic approach and learn from the Chinese. Just see what they have obtained experimenting with different types of leaves.

As a matter of fact, we live in Africa where mostly all breeders are privileged to have enough space available for growing clivias. Although I am just the owner of a big yard, most of my famous plants are also these bears in which I take great joy and pleasure.

My wife, Corra, and I not only appreciate the lovely big flowers but are also amazed by the delightful different shades and colours of the ripening berries.

Keep in mind that not all Clivia lovers are breeders or collectors. Broad leaves contribute magnificently to the beauty of a garden. Also remember that different than flowers, these shiny broad leaves are seen for twelve (12) months of the year.

It's good to plant the Goliaths at the back and the Davids in front.

When I first started participating in shows, one of the experienced showers whom I admire a lot, made the statement that broad leaf clivias only flower down below with just a few flowers.

I experienced it oppositely. One of my big bears which was the best on show in 2002, had 52 flowers displayed on a nice thick, long stem.

Afterwards I entered a lot of broad leaves with the most amazing rosettes which obtained various prizes.

In a short period of time, cultivating with broad leaves, I experienced a noticeable improvement in the quality of flower colours. Perhaps, until lately, little attention was paid to broad leaves. In my opinion, these Goliaths definitely have merit.

Allow people to make their own choice according to space and need. I am not a prophet but want to make a prediction that many of you will be pleasantly surprised with what the broad leaf plants will achieve in future.

Furthermore, I noticed another very interesting thing among the clivias, namely that the moth of the lily borer, gets totally flabbergasted when it comes to broad leaf clivias. In my nursery until now, they usually attack the narrow leaf plants but for all we know, they might become more clever in future.

Well as a clivia lover, I must say it's very difficult making a choice between narrow and broad leaves. Each has its own place and glory. Maybe we should leave the judgement and choice to the discretion of every breeder.

I salute you as David the owner of a lovely collection of Goliaths in which I take great pleasure with these words: Be BROAD minded GO BIG – GO LIATH! ▼



Genius at work with Goliath - SIZE DOES MATTER

BREEDING GREEN THROATS

By *Pikkie Strumpher*

Elize introduced me to Clivias 15 years ago and in 1997 we bought our first orange Clivias for the garden from Koos Goldenhuys. He also became my mentor for Clivias. He showed us pictures of Clivias and when I saw Boesman, a green throat, I fell in love with it and knew that I wanted to breed green throats. Offsets of green throats were not available in those days and we frequented the nurseries for plants. We had a lucky break when we bought a bronze green throat from a wholesale nursery, Frohman's Eden, in the Mpumalanga Lowveld. The colour of the flowers was good but the shape needed improvement. Nevertheless I planted all the seeds.

When the seedlings flowered in 2002, we were over the moon and put one of them on show at the Jo'burg Show. It was awarded Best Green Throat and Second Runner-up on Show. Koos suggested, Gunston as a name for it since the colour was similar to the colour of a Gunston cigarette package.

Gunston and its brothers formed the core of my breeding program for the next few years since I believed in line breeding rather than mixed

breeding. Although the Gunston brothers were not homogeneous, I divided them into two groups according to the colour of the flowers. The one group was burnt orange/bronze and the second group dark orange/red. The first year I pollinated all of them and planted the seeds. I soon realized, like most backyard Clivia growers, I did not have enough space to grow them all. I decided to just concentrate on the first group of burnt orange/bronze. When the first seedlings flowered, the second problem arose since I wanted to keep them all.

I took a step back and had a closer look at all my plants. I identified which characteristics I preferred: bronze/brown with a large white and prominent green throat. I also limited myself to only ten breeding plants. None of the plants conformed to all the characteristics but I selected some that had most of the characteristics. From Gunston and his brothers I selected only Gunston for its large white and green throat and Green Tambourine for its colour. For the flowering seedlings I used the same criteria to select plants and the prominent ones were High Hopes for its large white and green throat and Dusty and



777 F1 Seedling



Desert Storm

Desert Storm which were browner than bronze. I used these plants in different combinations for breeding and planted only ten to twenty seeds of each combination because of space limitation. The most outstanding plants of the next generation so far are Mrs. Brown and Sienna Bronze.

In 2004 I decided to sell some of my excess seeds at the Pretoria



Show. At that stage, I was still very much a beginner with a collection of mainly oranges, a few yellows and green throats. After selecting a number of seeds from the different green throats for planting, I mixed the rest and sold them as a "green throat mix". This proved to be very unsuccessful and I sold only a few.

People seem to prefer buying seeds with the parentage speci-

Green Tambourine



High Hopes

Mrs Brown

fied. I planted all the remaining seeds. When I transplanted the seedlings after six months I spotted five unpigmented seedlings and marked them as possible yellows. Three years later when the first two flowered, I was pleasantly surprised as they turned out to be "versicoloured green throats". Since they had only seven flowers each, we decided

Sienna Bronze



to call them "777's". I cross polinated the two and although they only produced ten to fifteen seeds, all seedlings flowered with similar colouration characteristics in 2012.

After nearly fifteen years of breeding the Gunston line, I am still amazed at the variety of colour combinations one gets and will therefore continue using the Gunston progeny in my breeding program. ▼

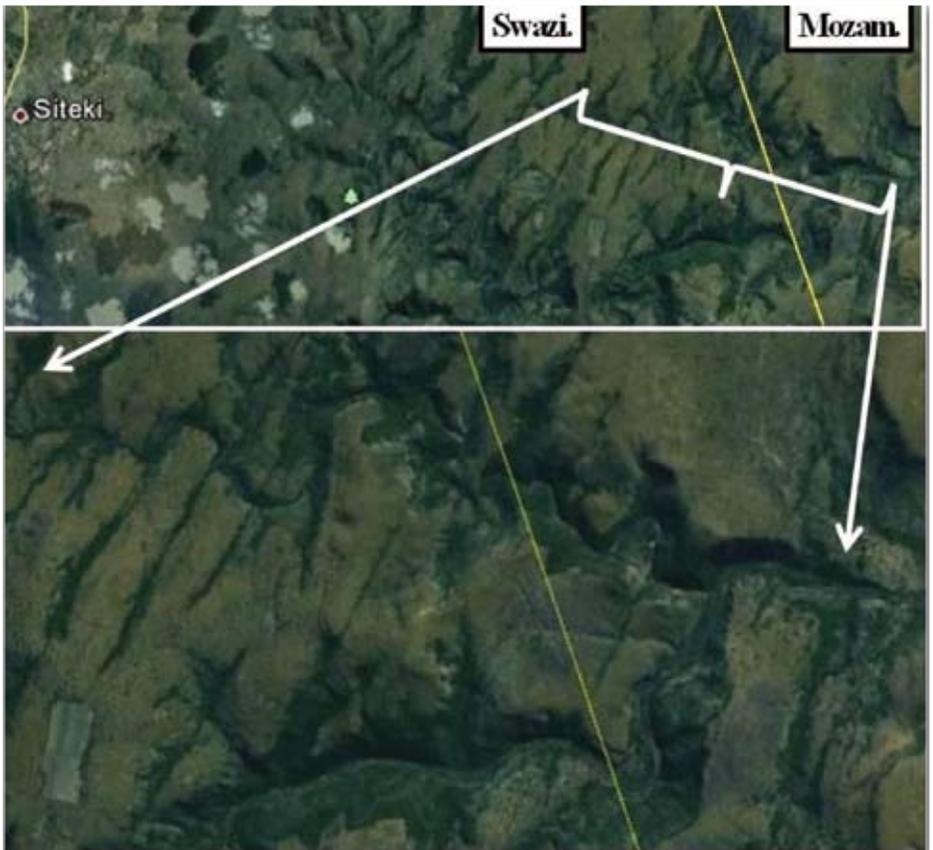
HABITAT CLIVIA

CLIVIAS IN MOZAMBIQUE - PART II

By Connie & James Abel

The following visuals support our conviction that clivias are indigenous to Mozambique, just waiting for the first enthusiast to report the details. As stated in *Clivia News* 21.2 page 17, in the mid 1990s Rudo Lotter reported seeing *C. miniata* near Siteki in Swaziland. The photo shows Siteki relative to the Mozambique border (slanted line), with the border region (enlarged below) showing some of the wooded areas on top of these southern Lebombos. There is no reason why the political boundary should be a vegetative boundary.

We found the following to be an interesting summary for the Lebombos: "The west-facing steep slopes, like the adjacent Lowveld, are in a rain shadow and therefore are not capable of supporting a great density of vegetation. Conversely, the wetter east-facing slopes are often heavily wooded. Notable features of this area are the steep ravines in and adjacent to the river gorges. They support a large number of tree species, including some of the rarest plants on earth." ('Ground Water Resources of Swaziland', Ministry of Natural Resources). ▼



RELATED

CLIVIA ON POSTAGE STAMPS - PART II

By Sakkie Nel

Since my first article on this subject was published (Newsletter Volume 15 number 1 : January – March 2006) more exciting postal matter has come to my attention.

The first article about clivias (“The story of the cream Clivia by Mr. R.V. Gooding”) to appear in any South African magazine, was published by the *Farmer’s Weekly* on 5 February 1964.

The first Clivia postage stamp was issued by the Independent Republic of Togo in 1966 as a 10 Franc stamp in a set of five stamps depicting the “20th Anniversary of The World Health Headquarters”. (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1 Togo

Below: Fig. 2 Korea

The 1974 edition of Northern Korea depicts a yellow lily which resembles a Clivia but surely is not a Clivia. (Fig. 2).

Equatorial Guinea issued a Clivia stamp in 1976 (*C. miniata* 0,60 p) as part of a set of



Fig. 3 Guinea

seven stamps to claim the second place in giving this beautiful flower some wings. Those seven stamps were issued to promote the protection of Africa’s nature. (Fig. 3).

Burundi issued a set of 12 stamps in 1986 of which two depict the same Clivia in flower. The 5t stamp (with a white margin) is for surface mail while the 80t stamp (with a blue margin) is for airmail and inscribed “Poste Aerenne”. Fig. 4 & 5).



Fig. 4 Burundi 5 f

Clivias are cultivated extensively in China, because of their extreme popularity. Some very spectacular Clivia plants can be seen in the mausoleum of Mao Tse-tung in Beijing.

The Republic of China (Taiwan) produced a clivia stamp in 1994 which is quite beautiful. (Fig. 6).

Lesotho (*M6-Cape Clivia-C. nobilis*) (Fig. 7), Maldives (miniature sheet of the flowers of the Indian Ocean) (Fig. 8) and Romania (set of four flowers with *C. miniata* on the 3100L stamp) (Fig. 9) all followed in 2000 with their issues of stamps depicting Clivias. The six Maldives stamps all depict a tiny piece of the



Fig. 5 Burundi 80 f



Fig. 6 Taiwan



Fig. 7 Lesotho

C. miniata plant in flower with two umbels. This attractive Maldives sheetlet contains a designer mistake in that the back umbel's Pseudostem disappears into thin air!

Lesotho issued a miniature sheet with five stamps of the Greenshank bird and one of a Long billed Curlew to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the birth of John James Audubon. He was the artist who designed the two stamps. Clivias beautify the margins of the sheet. (Fig. 10).

In 2010 Romania issued five stamps to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Botanical Gardens of Buckarest. The 1L60 stamp and *C. miniata* tab are beautiful. (Fig. 11). This stamp is not included in the collage of Connie & James Abel (Fig.15). Tanzania issued two sheetlets in 2011 about "Flowers of Africa" comprising six stamps altogether. The

clivia is not on any of the stamps but on the margin of the one sheetlet. (Fig. 12).

There are three miniature sheets that use Clivia to beautify the margins, without the Clivia being included in any of the stamps in the sheetlets.

I cannot believe or get proof that there is a piece of rock sticking out of the Indian or South Pacific Ocean, which may call itself Surf

Islands, in order to rip off unsuspecting tourists but the eight stamps that were issued by them depicting flowers of houseplants, I consider to be Cinderellas. The flowering *C. miniata* appears on a Rp,10 stamp in a sheetlet of eight stamps. (Fig. 14).

A beautiful Australian stamp with a Clivia tab is the one with the Koala bear. (Fig.13).

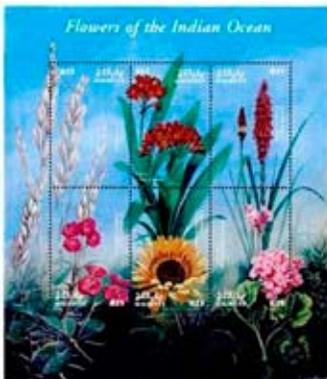


Fig. 8 Maldives



Fig. 9 Romania

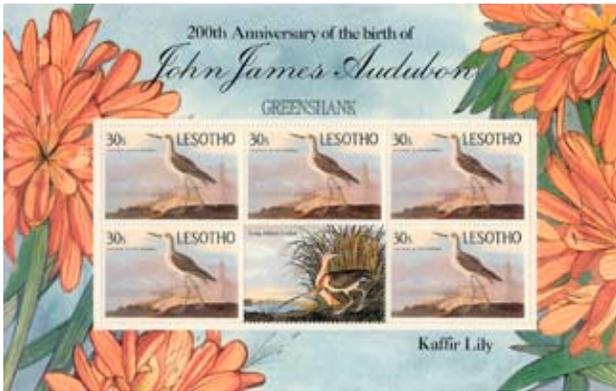


Fig. 10 Lesotho



Fig. 11 Romania

Summary of the 23 clivia stamps:

Three continents:

- Africa = 15
- Asia = 6
- and Europe = 2.

Eleven countries with 23 stamps:

- Burundi = 2
- China = 4
- Equatorial Guinea = 1
- Lesotho = 1
- Maldives = 1
- North Korea = 1
- Romania = 2
- Saharawi = 1
- South Africa = 8
- Taiwan = 1
- Togo = 1
- Total = 23 stamps

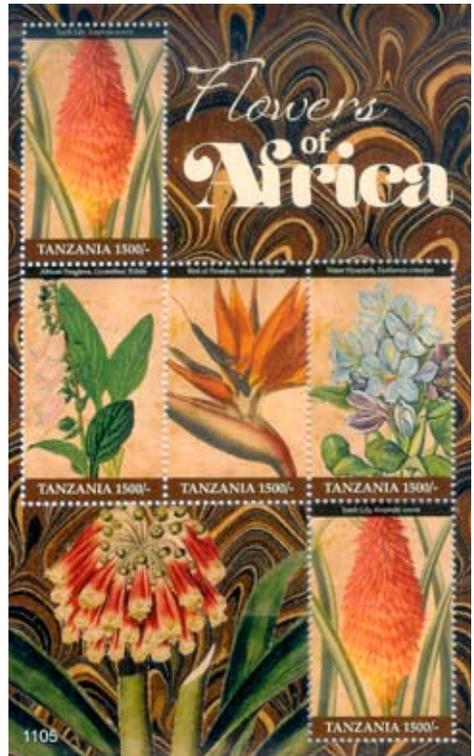


Fig. 12 Tanzania

Fig. 14 Surf Islands



Fig. 13 Australia & Koala bear

The six species of clivias are indigenous to South Africa and Swaziland. One habitat in Swaziland exists near Bearded Man in the Drakensberg mountains. Our research showed that Swaziland has yet to honour this most beautiful of flower on one of their stamps!

Fig. 15 (below) Collage of 22 stamps



A follow up on an inconvenient necessity

By Gordon Fraser

A picture of my new clivia house now filled with a diverse display of colours. It has proven to be satisfactory in all

respects, fully justifying the cost. This is the best flowering I have had in ten years. ▼



NORTHERN CLIVIA CLUB AUCTION PRICES

Lot	Sold price	Lot	Sold price
<i>Clivia memorabilia</i> from Y Nakamura - Lot 1	1600	Red Green Girl (Tienie's Treasure)	1500
<i>Clivia memorabilia</i> from Y Nakamura - Lot 2	900	Fruit Salad #1	1000
Belgian 'Panapale'	400	Chubb pretty pink Emerald Beauty	1700
Variegated Broad Leaf Monk	500	Bronze Green Boy	9000
Barbie doll	800	Andrew Gibson clone	3000
Suprise Suprise	1400	Hirao	5000
Frats Lobster Claw	1150	Chubb blushed yellow	1600
Frats Odd Petal #3-#4	400	Anna Meyer Peach	5000
Frats Odd Petal #0-#1	1000	Fruit Salad #2	1300
Aura	2600	777 F1 Seedling	26500
Bing Wiese A1 Apricot clone	800	Miniata 'Cindy'	2000
Belgium green flower -HOT LIPS	1600	Lucky Charm Offset	3000
Boesman	200	Ansie No 1	1600
Hantie	3100	Ansie No 2	900
Aquarius - Interspecific	2000	John Donne	1200
Cynthia Giddy X Jadestone Angel (Y <i>Mirabilis</i>)	2500	Rihanna	2100

CLIVIA PLACES

THE GARDEN OF ACCLIMATISATION – TENERIFE

By Ian Coates

It was in the 18th century that explorers to distant parts of the World started collecting plants in large numbers for both commercial and scientific reasons. Many of these explorers started out from Europe and many of the plants with which they returned shortly died. This was mostly because of the difference in climate between that in Europe and that in their natural habitats in the southern hemisphere.

The Spaniards had conquered Tenerife 300 years before and, in 1788, Carlos III of Spain decreed that a garden be created near the coast in the valley of La Oratava in northern Tenerife where these exotic plants could be acclimatised in a climate between that of their natural habitat and that of the Spanish mainland. He entrusted the upkeep of the

garden to the Marquis of Prado who was an enthusiastic botanist and was an able administrator there for the next forty years. A local architect was employed to design the garden and, after land clearance and some building, planting began in 1792. The garden was run by various local institutions until it came under Government control in 1983. It should be noted that the climate here in the north of the island is cooler than it is in the south with less sun, lower temperatures and more rain. Although on the same latitude as the Sahara desert, year round temperatures are very clement being between 11 and 23 degrees centigrade with a total rainfall around 400mm, mostly in the winter. Clivia therefore receive additional water in the garden during the warmer summer months.





The garden has a fantastic ambiance from the moment you enter. It is a peaceful historic haven in the southern fringes of Puerto de la Cruz some 115 metres above sea level. Most of the trees are of considerable age and

maturity and their canopy in the main shades the plants below. The higuera here (pic 2) is several hundreds of years old with numerous aerial roots now reaching the ground. There are aroids and bromeliads amongst the tropical





and sub tropical plants nestling under the palms and figs. As well, of course, as Clivia.

There, sadly, are no records of the Clivia arriving on the island. Because the more modern records since the 1860s are complete, the Clivia must have arrived in Tenerife shortly before that time, with no subsequent introductions. There are numerous examples of Clivia throughout the northern part of the island being used as decoration in private and public flower beds. (pic 3)

The *C. miniata* on the island vary considerably in form. Narrow leaved forms with pointed tips to round tipped, broad leaved forms. (pic 4). There is also variation in flower shape from broad to narrow tepals but only little

variation in colour from pale to darker orange. It is assumed that such a range of plants is as originally introduced, for it is only natural for a collector to select as much variety as possible. Around 30 years ago I found the only variegated plant on the island of which I am aware and this now has several offsets. Circumstances lead me to believe that this was a chance mutation. An additional attraction is that the plants retain many of their seeds throughout the year (pic 5), there being few, if any, natural predators.

A second form of Clivia on the island *C. xcyrtanthiflora*. It is presumed these were introduced as such, since there is no history of any pendulous species being on the island



either currently or in the past. Also, the timing of the introduction of Clivia to the island, around the 1850s, coincides with the first known breeding of interspecifics so, as the latest development of the time, it would be desirable to include some in the collection.

The *xcyrtanthiflora* leaves are similar to each other with rounded tips and slightly rough edges, but the flowers vary from a strong orange to a form with darker, slightly bronzed sepals and paler petals. (pic 6) In recent years a number of plants have been noticed

which appear to be second generation hybrids.

Apart from the main botanic garden, there is a much smaller garden, but nonetheless charming, in La Oratava town. (pic 7). The forms of *Clivia*, both *miniata* and *xcyrtanthiflora*, match those found in the main garden.

Apart from the botanic gardens, both forms of *Clivia* are found throughout the northern towns. The climate down to the south is far too hot and dry for anything other than controlled culture. Even in the north, the sun is strong enough to bleach the leaves. (pic 8). This is particularly evident in



some municipal displays where no consideration seems to have been given. Not only do the plants now look unattractive, but very few will flower in such conditions.

Clivia are grown on other Canarian islands, most notably Gran Canaria, but not in the same profusion or variety. Interestingly, the Portuguese island of Madeira, some 300 miles to the North, has very similar plants to those found on Tenerife. That is, a selection of *C. miniata* and an interspecific grown widely. Again, I have found no trace of any *C. nobilis* from which the interspecific is believed to be derived so, as with Tenerife, I would assume that it was introduced already hybridised. ▼

Photo visit to Meg and Graeme Hart's Cransley

By Joubert van Wyk









CLIVIA CLUBS & INTEREST GROUPS

Free State Clivia Club

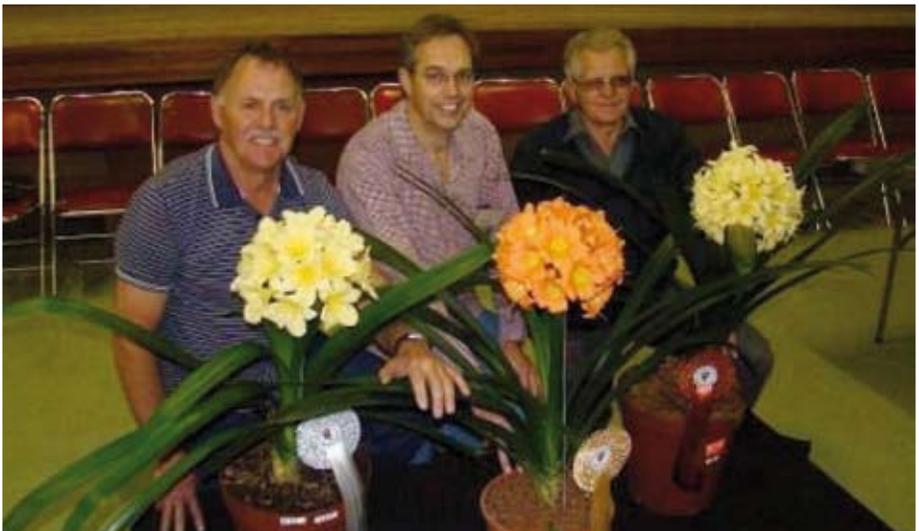
Marius Swart (Chairperson)

What defines a successful Clivia show? Would it be 327 people with their oo's and aa's? Could it be the 184 Clivia entered in a variety of different classes? Perhaps it is the buzz at the tables of those members selling their precious plants to the public who wish to buy the next show winner.

The high-light of the Free State Clivia Club's annual show on Saturday 15 September 2012 was most probably the support and enthusiasm of each and every one of its members. People took off from work to bench the plants for the competition and the general display on the Friday. Ladies from our club did all the catering not only to nourish the hard working members preparing for the show, but they also ran the tea garden the following day (no wonder the first Clivia species discovered along the eastern coast of our country was named after a noble lady!) And right from the very beginning until the last few leaves were swept away professional, pensioner and labourer worked shoulder to shoulder.

A treat for the members was the introduction of a cocktail party the Friday night before the show. Dr. Piet Theron came all the way from George and after he judged the plants during the afternoon he shared his valuable knowledge with the members sipping on a glass of wine. Also a first for the Club was the opportunity given to Liz and Glenn Boyd to sell good genetic material to the members the afternoon before the public show.

Outside support came from Checkers Hyper, Kloppers and Ons Stad community paper. Obviously the Sand Du Plessis High School deserves to be mentioned for their loyalty over the past years. Yes, we all had the potential winner still at home recovering from yet again another harsh Free State winter, but a sincere congratulations to Stefan Ferreira with his worthy show winner and runner up, and to Hannes van Rooyen who took the third place. Last but not least thank you to Dr. Jan Stemmet, as convenor, and to his dedicated show committee who fulfilled an excellent task.



Left: Stefan Ferreira, middle: Marius Swart, right: Hannes van Rooyen



Andre Schlemmer and Hennie van der Mescht



Exhibition floor



First Place - Schimmer



Liz Boyd, Jurie Swart and Stef de Swardt



Piet Theron



Second Place

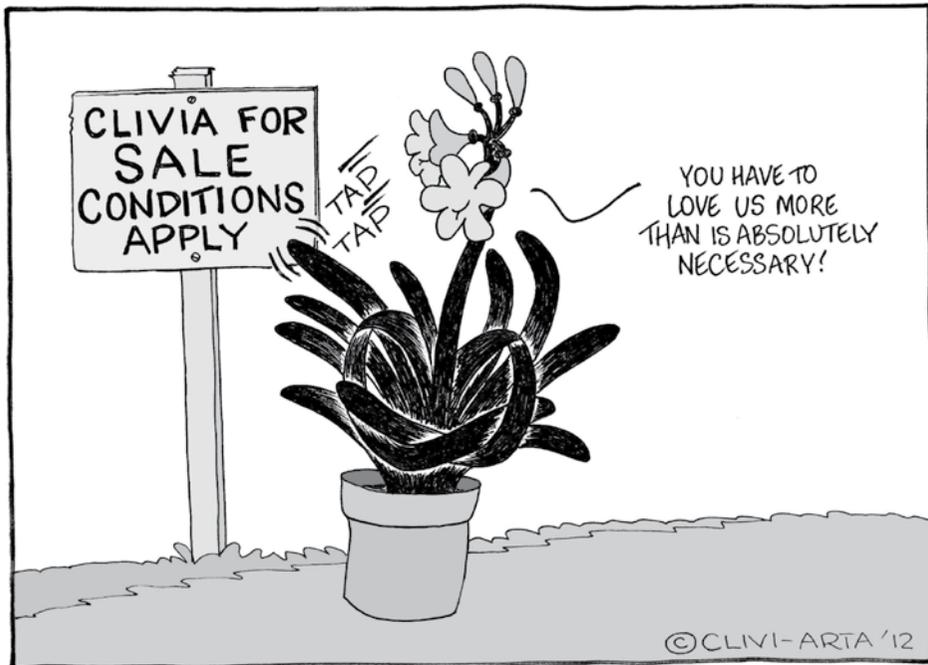
The Free State Clivia Club congratulates Stefan Ferreira on winning gold and silver and Hannes van Rooyen on winning bronze for the overall best on show. Both first and second place winners were hybridized by Dawie Strydom from plants

cultivated by Margot MacNeil. The winner plant is known as 'Schimmer' and was grown from seed by Stefan Ferreira. The plant that won third place is a cross between a Vico yellow and a Bing Wiesse yellow. ▼

Johannesburg Clivia Club



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CLIVIA CLUBS

Cape, Eastern Province, Free State, Garden Route, Joburg, KwaZulu-Natal, Lowveld,
New Zealand, Northern and Northern Free State

INTEREST GROUPS

Border, Bosveld, NKZ-N (Newcastle), Overberg, Highway (Durban area) and Vryheid

