



### **Clivia News**

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# From the Editor

his latest edition of the Clivia News is the final one for the 2021 year. You will notice that most of the pages are filled with photographs which are popular with many readers. The article by David Loysen on his management of the care of Clivias with the challenging cold conditions in the USA, illustrates the lengths that some members have to go to in an effort to flower their clivias. Louis Lotter has contributed an article on his experiences with Tiger variegation breeding. This trait is inherited as an autosomal dominant gene. Should the parent Tiger plant be homozygous, then all the seedlings will have this interesting pattern. Chris de Vry details for us the progress that Pine Pienaar has made with his line breeding of 'Blitz' green throated group 1 yellow plants. The results of the 'virtual' show in the USA provides us with the top plants entered in their inaugural show.

The next Clivia News will be published in February 2022. At this stage I have access to some photographs of 'virtual' shows held in 2021 as well as the Society 'Virtual' Show second and third positions. The contribution from the NACS is a pleasant surprise. Please keep me supplied with new information to fill our pages for out next publication.



A big thank you to Helen Sanders for her contribution of cartoons for the Clivi-Arta page.

Glynn Middlewick



### From the Chair

he Covid pandemic has had many negative side effects on membership of the clubs throughout South Africa. The loss of membership cannot be ascribed to the pandemic alone. The members that were the regular supporters of the club meetings prior the pandemic continue to support the clubs. Zoom sessions are an easy way of communicating with members, but this method does not prove to be a popular alternative for most members.

The Society members continue to breed exceptional plants with flower colours that continue to surprise us all. Some exhibitors would like the new colours to be recognised at shows. This could easily be accommodated in a separate class. The backbone of the best show plants continues to be the orange blooms, with the new, exciting colour combinations needing further development of their form to compete successfully in the open classes!

The Society affiliation fees will remain unchanged for 2022. This fee will be reviewed at the AGM in May 2022. Hopefully the next AGM will be a physical meeting! The Clivia Society 'Virtual' Show will be held next year from the 1st of February until the middle of October. The icon to be included in the photographs will be a @ symbol. The symbol/icon must be included in the photograph with the class number and may not be edited into the photograph. **\*** 

Glynn Middlewick



# **Growing Clivias in Northern Climates**

### David Loysen - USA

n northern Vermont at 44.6° North latitude we have six different seasons, which provide us with many challenges for growing tender plants.

Summer lasts for three months, from June to mid-September. It's a short season for growing but provides us with intense growing conditions as the day-lengths last as long as 15 1/2 hours.

Fall (Autumn) season is full of tourists (leaf peepers), cool crisp days and fall harvests.

'Stick Season' follows when all the leaves have dropped from the trees, the days are dark and the weather has

turned 'raw'. A good time for the inn keepers and restauranteurs to take their vacations.

Winter – while many dread the onslaught of snow and cold, we welcome it here. It is the lifeblood of our tourist economy. Only 9 hours of daylight and the temperatures drop down to minus 14°C, but we're equipped to deal with it.

Finally, to round out the cycle, we have 'Mud Season' and Spring. This is the time when we have the summer and winter fighting a 'tug of war'. Plants are starting to grow but risk the wintery blast. Days may be warm but the nights are freezing cold.

I have about 80-90 plants in various stages of growth. When I built my barn, I created an 8' x 8' greenhouse in the southeast corner. I used double wall polycarbonate glazing starting at 3 foot above the ground level and up to roof the peak. All the solid walls are fully insulated with 3-4" of fiberglass, with an insulated entry door. I installed bottom heat for the benches using Benchwarmer tubing made by TrueLeaf. A small 1400W Bosch water heater and circulation pump controlled by a thermostat moves warm water through the tubing. As I also may get a huge amount of solar gain during the day, I installed an exhaust fan to prevent overheating. Finally, I put in a small duct fan to bring warm air







Clivias under the trees

down from the roof and distribute it at floor level. I have several grow-light options to increase light intensity and extend the day length as needed.

My greenhouse is a multi-use facility. In winter, I transform it into a 'cold house' by adding 1" foil lined foam board panels over the double wall glazing above and an extra sheet of polycarbonate over the lower level glazing. With the heating thermostat set at  $4.5^{\circ}$ C and the vent fan set at  $18^{\circ}$ C this becomes the overwintering home for clivias (my garage freezes in winter, my cellar is too warm).

But there are conflicts. In the spring from April to June, I want maximum light for growing vegetable seedlings as a greenhouse but it's still too cold to move clivias outside.

In the fall (autumn) from September through October when we may have frost outside, I need a very warm place inside to cure pumpkins, sweet potatoes, etc. so there's no room to move clivias in and the insulating panels are not yet in place.

With the above problems in mind, here's how I manage to overcome the challenges.

Summer: All the clivias go outside. Some on a long bench which is under 80% shade cloth and the rest under trees which most closely replicates the dappled shade found in their



Outside shade bench

native habitat. In both cases plants are kept raised off the ground. I use copper sheeting under the pallets to keep slugs from crawling up into the pots and chomping on leaves. Not much I can do to keep chipmunks from stashing nuts and seeds in some of the larger pots. Once in place, every plant gets a once per year dose of the systemic insecticide, imidacloprid, to protect against mealybugs. It's important to apply this at the start of active growth when the plants are taking up water and nutrients. I also apply either 3-4 month Osmocote (20-20-20 with micronutrients) or a similar formula in liquid form (MaxSea 16-16-16, seaweed blend w/ minors). 'Recharge', a biological fungicide from RealGrowers.com is used year-round to protect from fungal infections.

After that I am able to relax and the clivias are able to cope by themselves. I'll water if we get a prolonged dry spell but that's it until September.

Late September through early October I keep an eagle eye on the weather forecasts and stand ready to break out the frost covers. We frequently get an early frost followed by three or four more weeks of good outside weather. In September 2020, we had 3 nights of -2.2°C, which is the earliest period that is has been that low since the 1940's. It took extraordinary measures to cover up everything including the addition of an electric heater. A few plants on the margins, still suffered some frost burns.

Fall (late-Sept. to late-Oct.): I hope to get the greenhouse cleaned out by mid-October at the latest and start converting it for winter use. It also gets a thorough cleaning to eliminate any pathogens. I can tuck a few clivias under the benches but most have to be moved inside the barn which offers about 3°C of frost protection. This year all blooming size plants were moved into winter storage by October 25. Immature plants were moved to a south facing window inside my house where I'll keep them growing throughout the winter since they don't need a dormancy period. As I move each plant, I update the master record and make note of size, condition, etc.

Stick (late-Oct. to mid-Nov.): Usually the clivias are still in the barn where frost covers are sometimes needed. The water line to the barn has to be drained for the winter, so I fill jugs with water and place them between the plants. This provides an additional buffer against cold nights. The water heater gets turned on when the night temperature fall 2-3 degrees below freezing. Winter: Not much to do except monitoring to make sure all systems are working as intended. I water about every 3-4 weeks depending on conditions. Each time it takes about 20 litres to wet the plants. I use a very well-draining soil mix which is great during prolonged periods of rain in the summer months, but it can dry out pretty fast under cover. I've learned not to let the plants get too dry because the roots start shriveling up. If water is then added the roots can't take up the water and rot sets in. Indoors, the smaller plants get watered about every 10 days with a very low dose of fertilizer added every other time.

Mud/Spring (mid-Mar. to late-May): We can still get a frost/freeze all the way through to the end of May. But the benches need to be cleared out by mid-April and the greenhouse converted back to a sunny, warm growing room for seed germination of the summer crops. Any plant showing signs of bloom goes to the house where it can be enjoyed. I pack as many plants as possible under the benches and the rest get moved into the house or garage.

It's an exercise in material handling, but the cycle is complete!



### **Breeding Tiger Clivia**

#### Louis Lotter

started my hobby of *Clivia* growing 25 years ago. I live in the Vryheid area and have been actively breeding these wonderful plants since then. As a breeder, I am always on the lookout for something different. I saw my first 'Tiger *Clivia*' plant at the home of my late friend Barney Viljoen in 2016. My understanding is that he received his plant from Attie Le Roux of Nelspruit who in turn imported his plant from Japan.

The information that I have is that Mr Mitsuashi of Japan collected the first' 'Tigers' from various Japanese *Clivia* breeders.

I purchased the plant from my friend Barney Viljoen in 2017. My next seventeen 'Tiger *Clivia*' plants I received from my Chinese friend as small seedlings in 2017 and 2018.

I started my breeding programme by selfing the 'Tiger *Clivia*' I bought from Barney Viljoen. The seedlings had narrow leaves with unattractive flowers and umbel shapes. My aim was to grow more compact broad leaf plants.

I pollinated the 'Tiger *Clivia*' with pollen from various plants such as 'Cameron

Peach', 'Chubbs Peach', 'Tk', bronze flowers, interspecific flowers and short leaf plants.



Some of the seedlings that germinated from a hybrid of the narrow leaf orange 'Tiger *Clivia*' with

a Group 2 cross, produced unpigmented stems. I came to the conclusion that the original 'Tiger *Clivia*' must be split for Group 2 yellow to produce the unpigmented seedlings. Not all the pollinated seedlings produced the 'Tiger' variegation.

One of the crosses I made was with 'Golden Daruma' or 'Lithium Clivia' as it is known in China. This hybrid resulted in two yellow 'Lithium' leaf 'Tiger' seedlings. I called them 'Golden Tiger'.

I then pollinated variegated interspecific flowers and broadleaf variegated plants, but not many of the seedlings had the



'Tiger' variegation evident in them.

One important observation I made was the that the first leaf of the seedling may have no 'Tiger' variegation, but subsequent leaves do show the 'Tiger pattern'. I keep all my 'Tiger' crosses, hoping that one of the leaves will display a 'Tiger' variegation on it.

This year I have had one 'Tiger' plant from Japan and five from China that flowered. The 'Tiger *Clivia*' flower from China had multitepal flowers. What makes the plant special is that it had light



vertical variegated stripes on the leaf, as well as the 'Tiger' variegation, making it a 'Southern Cross' 'Tiger' multitepal flowering plant. It also shows some Akebono variegation on some of the leaves Two interesting seedlings I have are 'Tiger' striped Light of Buddha plants that should flower soon.

I have now started making interesting crosses with the 'Tiger *Clivia*' variegated plants, crossing them with Akebono, Light of Buddha, Henglan, interspecific *C. mirabilis*, and *C. nobilis*.

I have noticed that the variegated 'Tiger' seedlings grow more slowly and are more prone to rot than other variegated seedlings.

The observations I have made in this article are based on my own experiences with these unusual plants. I share my thoughts in the hope that fellow growers may become interested in growing these plants.

I would like to thank the following Clivia growers that helped me with this article namely Sean Chubb, Felix Middleton and Rex Duke.

Specialist online nursery supplying unique Clivia plants and offsets from selected growers.



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### Blitz Going for the 'Green and Gold'

#### Pine Pienaar//Chris de Vry

#### INTRODUCTION

*livia* flowers have always held an attraction for me. I started my collection in the late eighties with plants that appealed to me. The collection started in a small way, collecting more than breeding initially. To satisfy my demands with regards to the plant appearance, I started my own breeding programme. My ideal clivia flower, which may seem a bit rigid, are guidelines that I don't deviate from. The standards are firstly that the tepal width must exceed 45 mm. Secondly the flower should 'speak to me'. Each flower should be exceptional and have a unique character that I look for in a plant.

#### THE LONG ROAD TO GREEN

During a visit to the Southern Cape in the late nineties, I often visited nurseries to see what clivia plants they had in stock. At one of the nurseries, I found two yellow flowering *Clivia miniata* plants that had green throats. There was that 'something special' about these two plants that appealed to me. The two plants were named 'Super 1' and 'Super 2'. With these two plants as parents, I set forth on the road to breed broad tepaled green throated yellow plants. (Figure 1).

When the two plants flowered, I cross pollinated them with each other. After a good four years, I selected the best of the green throated yellow flowering plants. The best two of the offspring, I named 'Pine' and 'Maggie'.

I continued to add other green throated yellow plants to my collection, notably plants from Bill Morris in Australia. From the offspring, I selected many seedlings for their quality green throats. One of these plants I named 'Mauritz', the best of the flowers, which had a tall peduncle with a good umbel and flowers of a good quality.

I continued with this form of line breeding, (Figure 2) crossing the flowers back to the best of my previous generations, The best green throats I flowered had a fifty percent green throat – this is the area on the inside of the flower covered by the green colour. My challenge now was to increase the area of the green throat to sixty percent.



Figure 1



Figure 2

#### ARRIVING AT BLITZ

Eventually, I developed six super green throated flowering plants that I named 'Blitz 1 to 6'. Two of these plants had exceptional green throats, with the area covered by the green up to seventy percent of the inside of the flower. 'Blitz number 3' was the best in my opinion. The flower shape at this stage was not satisfactory. The flower shape was too trumpet-like in appearance and the tepals were not well reflexed. (Figure 3).



Figure 3

A further ten years of line breeding passed before I was able to develop a plant that met my criteria for an ideal 'green and gold' flower.

#### WHAT ARE MY FUTURE GOALS?

After 20 years of line breeding 'Blitz' I produce about 50 'Blitz' plants a year. The variations continue and some of these are:

- Variations in the quality of the green colour on the inside of the flower. A strong green colour is usually present on the outside of the flower.
- Flowers with a strong green colour on the outside of the flower, but no green on the inside the flower. These flowers appear as a green and gold versicolour flower.
- Variations in the shape of the flower, from trumpet shaped to open reflexed flowers. (Figures 4, 5 and 6).



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

From the results I have achieved from my breeding programme, I have narrowed down my selection of parent plants to:

- 1. Yellow reflexed tepals on big open flowers with significant green throats.
- 2. Mustard-yellow green throated plants that display the green throat brilliantly. (Figures 7 and 8).



Figure 7



Figure 8

#### WHERE TO NOW

I have succeeded in achieving a 'Blitz' plant with the extent of the green throat covering more than seventy percent. I am going to continue to improve this to exceed the 80% mark. Hopefully that is going to be the 'Green and Gold Springbok' *Clivia*. The breeding process towards a specific goal has taken a long time. Some goals remain and these are a multitepal 'Blitz' and a blush on the yellow flowers.

In addition to my yellow green-throated programme, I have managed to develop 'Peach Blitz' flowers. A challenge to me remains the improvement of the quality of the flowers and my idea of the perfect colours of my 'Blitz' plants. (Figures 9 and 10).



Figure 9



Figure 10

### **Clivia Society Virtual Shows**

he Covid pandemic started in 2020. We have been subjected to two further waves and now have to face a predicted fourth wave, expected at the end of 2021. With the pandemic out of control and our social activities limited, no physical clivia shows were held in 2020. Some sales were held in September 2020.

To compensate for the absence of club meetings and the cancellations of the shows in 2020, plans were set in motion to hold 'virtual' shows. Several clubs held their own virtual shows in 2020 and in 2021. Some clubs have held physical shows in 2021. The question arose whether the Society should offer a second 'virtual' show in 2021. The number of entries in the first Society 'virtual' show 2020 was a good 400 photos. The use of an icon to be included in the photograph, to ensure a current photograph, has worked well. The Society decided to go ahead and hold another 'virtual' show in 2021. The entry time extended from the 1st of February until mid-October. These dates were chosen to allow for entries from the Northern Hemisphere and accommodate the various flowering times within South Africa. Pendulous species, as well as interspecific and

*miniata* flowers were catered for in the 2021 'virtual' show. The number of entries was fewer than in 2020, but the quality of the submissions has improved so much, that the decision as to the winning entry, from a photographic image, was not an easy task for the judges.

The holding of physical shows in 2021 probably accounted for the reduced number of entries in the 'virtual' show, however the interest in the 'virtual' show remains good. The 'virtual' show provides a national and an international flavour to the competition, which appeals to some members. The 'virtual' show allows for blooms to be photographed whenever their blooming time may occur. Most entries for the 'virtual' show are submitted near to closing date of the competition, which is not a big problem for the administration of the entries. Going forward, the Clivia Society will continue providing the 'virtual' show annually. This is one positive aspect resulting from the Covid pandemic.

A big thank you to all entrants of the 'virtual' show and congratulations to the winners of the various classes. The entries will be open from the 1st February 2022 for submissions for the next 'virtual' show.



# Clivia Society 'Virtual miniata Show 2021' Results



Best on Show - Clivia Society 'Virtual miniata Show' - Rex and Deidre Williams

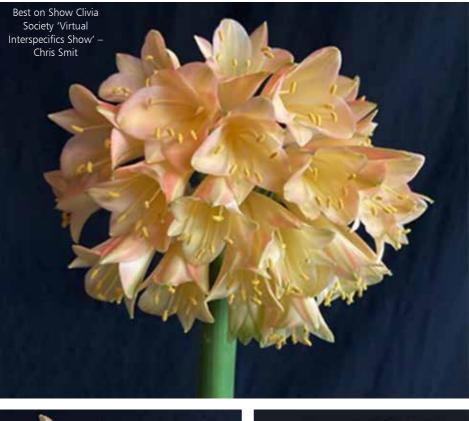


Runner-up to Best on Show Clivia Society 'Virtual miniata Show' – Carrie Kruger



Second Runner-up to Best on Show Clivia Society 'Virtual miniata Show' – Carrie Kruger

# Clivia Society 'Virtual Interspecific Show Results 2021'





Second Runner-up to Best on Show Clivia Society 'Virtual Interspecific Show' – Chris Smit



Runner-up to Best on Show Clivia Society 'Virtual Interspecific Show' – Chris Smit

### Class winners of the Clivia Society 'Virtual miniata Show' 2021



Class1 – Red *miniata* – First Place – Rex and Deidre Williams



Class 9 – Orange *miniata* – First Place – Chris Smit



Class 17 - Yellow miniata - First Place - Carrie Kruger



Class 19 – Pink *miniata* – First Place – Carrie Kruger



Class 21 – Apricot/Salmon *miniata* – First Place – Carrie Kruger



Class 45 - Orange miniata with a green throat - First Place - Carrie Kruger

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Class 49 - Yellow miniata with a green throat - First Place - Carrie Kruger



Class 51– Pink *miniata* with a green throat – First Place – Rex and Deidre Williams



Class 53 – Salmon/Apricot *miniata* with a green throat – First Place – Chris Smit



Class 57 – Peach *miniata* with a green throat – First Place – Chris Smit



Class 61 – Appleblossom-like/Blush *miniata* – First Place – Rex and Deidre Williams



Class 63 - Ghost/Water Colour miniata - First Place - Mike and Angie Riska

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Class 71 – Splash miniata – First Place – Chris Smit





Class 90 – Multitepal miniata – First Place – Rex and Deidre Williams

Class 74 - Versi-colour miniata -First Place – Chris Smit

# Results of Clivia Society 'Virtual Pendulous Species Show' - 2021



### Interspecific Classes of the Clivia Society 'Virtual Interspecific Show': Non-recurved Interspecific Flowers



Class 121 – Orange I/S non-recurved flowers – First Place – Chris Smit



Class 122 – Yellow I/S – non recurved flowers – First Place – Carrie Kruger



Class 123 – Pink I/S non-recurved flowers – First Place – Chris Smit



Class 127 – Versicolour I/S non-recurved flowers – First Place – Chris Smit



Class 124 – Apricot/Salmon I/S non-recurved flowers – First Place – Chris Smit



Class 129 – Multicolour I/S non-recurved flowers – First Place – Mike and Angie Riska

### Results of the Clivia Society 'Virtual Interspecific Show – recurved flowers



Class 141 – Orange I/S recurved flowers – First Place – Lionel and Jeanne Marten



Class 142 – Yellow I/S recurved flowers – First Place – Cora de Kock



Class 143 - Pink I/S recurved flowers - First Place - Andre du Toit

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Class 146 - Green I/S recurved flowers - First Place - Carrie Kruger



Class 147 – Versicolour I/S recurved flowers – First Place – Carrie Kruger



Class 149 – Multicolour I/S recurved flowers – First Place – Carrie Kruger



Class 150 – Multitepal I/S recurved flowers – First Place – Carrie Kruger

# Results from the Inaugural North American Clivia Society (NACS) Virtual Clivia Show held in April 2021

### by Malcolm R. Shrimplin, Clivia Quarterly Editor

urthering NACS' online presence, in conjunction with The North American Clivia Society mid-April Annual Members Meeting, NACS held its first annual Virtual Clivia Show! The show was a great success owing to the hard work and planning of NACS Webmaster, Marilyn Paskert. We are very fortunate to have Marilyn's thoughtful touch making all of our online efforts successful, including this one.

There were approximately one hundred entries this year! Like our physical shows, the top entries, as voted by all in attendance, received \$100 Amazon gift cards!



NACS Tied Second Place Flower category – Mike Riska

NACS Tied Second Place Flower category – Norman Nakanishi

In addition to these photos of the winning entries featured in this article, many more from the show can be found on the landing page of the NACS website at www. northamericancliviasociety. org.

Congratulations to all those who took the time to enter. We look forward to seeing even more entries next year!



NACS – Third Place Flower category – Alexander Mikhalevitch and Cary Schneider



NACS First Place Foliage category – Chuan Feng Huang

### Joburg Clivia Club Clivia Show September 2021



Above: Best on Show Floral Category JCC – Michael Holt and Pieter Saayman



Second Runner-up to Best on Show Floral Category JCC – Dawie Strydom



Highly Commended Floral Section JCC – Dawie Strydom





Second Runner-up to Best on Show Foliage Category – Dawie van Heerden

Best on Show Foliage Category JCC – Dawie van Heerden



Runner-up to Best on Show Foliage Category - Jaap Smit

### Northern Clivia Club Clivia Show 2021



Best on Show Floral Section NCC – Michael Holt and Pieter Saayman



Runner-up to Best on Show Floral Category NCC – Elize and Pikkie Strumpher



Second Runner-up to Best on Show Floral Category NCC – Michael Holt and Pieter Saayman



Best on Show Foliage Category NCC - Liz Boyd





Above: Hilton and Lisa Atherstone at the NCC Show

Left: Runner-up to Best on Show Foliage Category NCC – Hilton Atherstone

Below: Second Runner-up to Best on Show NCC – Hilton Atherstone





Joubert van Wyk and Bronwynn Engelbrecht at the NCC prize giving



Danie Pretorius – Judge at the NCC Show

### Entries submitted for the Garden Route Clivia Club Virtual Show



Andre Meyer – Orange with a green throat *miniata* 

Andre Meyer – Orange miniata



Carrie Kruger – Orange miniata

Carrie Kruger – pink miniata



Carrie Kruger – Bicolour/Picotee miiniata



Carrie Kruger – Ghost miniata





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Above: Riaan Brits – Orange with a green throat

Below: Gerhard Faber – Ghost *miniata* 





Above: Nico Cloete - Pink miniata



Nico Cloete – Versicolour miniata



Randolph Young – Multitepal Orange *Clivia miniata* 



Piet Theron – Yellow with a green throat miniata



Piet Theron – Peach miniata



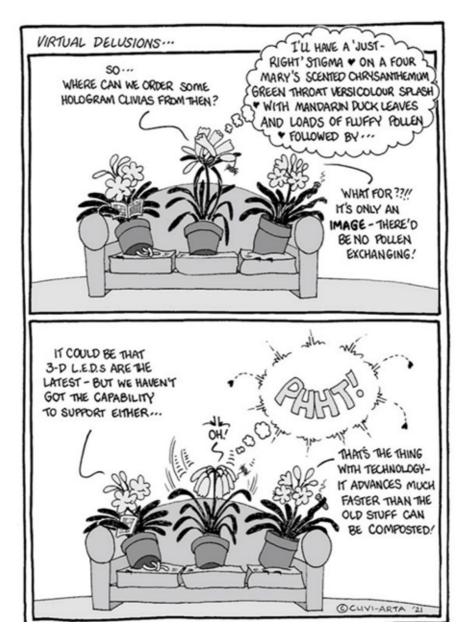
Piet Theron – multitepal miniata

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# Clivi-Arta

**Helen Sanders** 



### 2021 Membership Fees of the Clivia Society

### Subscriptions are for a single calendar year - January to December.

### The fees below include postage except where mentioned.

Australia	Pay to Lisa Fox: lisa.fox@gmail.com	\$ USA 30.00
USA	Pay to North American Clivia Society www.northamericancliviasociety.org	\$ USA 30.00
New Zealand	Alick McLeman: clivia@xtra.co.nz>	\$ USA 30.00
United Kingdom	Steve Hickman: hickman.sss@btconnect.com	£ 25.00

### International - other than the above countries:

Pay Clivia Society – Paypal gcmidd@mweb.co.za

\$ USA 30.00

#### South African Members:

Pay local club membership fee to the treasurer (Varies)

The club membership, includes a R250.00 affiliation fee to be paid to the Society by the club.

The postage cost of publications sent to the clubs by the Society is an extra fee, to be paid by the clubs.

### Advertisement Costs in Clivia News - 2021

### Three Editions per year: Artwork supplied by Advertiser.

Half Page:	R300.00
Full Page:	R600.00

### CONTACT DETAILS OF SOUTH AFRICAN CLUBS AND INTEREST GROUPS

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