

# NZ CLIVIA CLUB INC

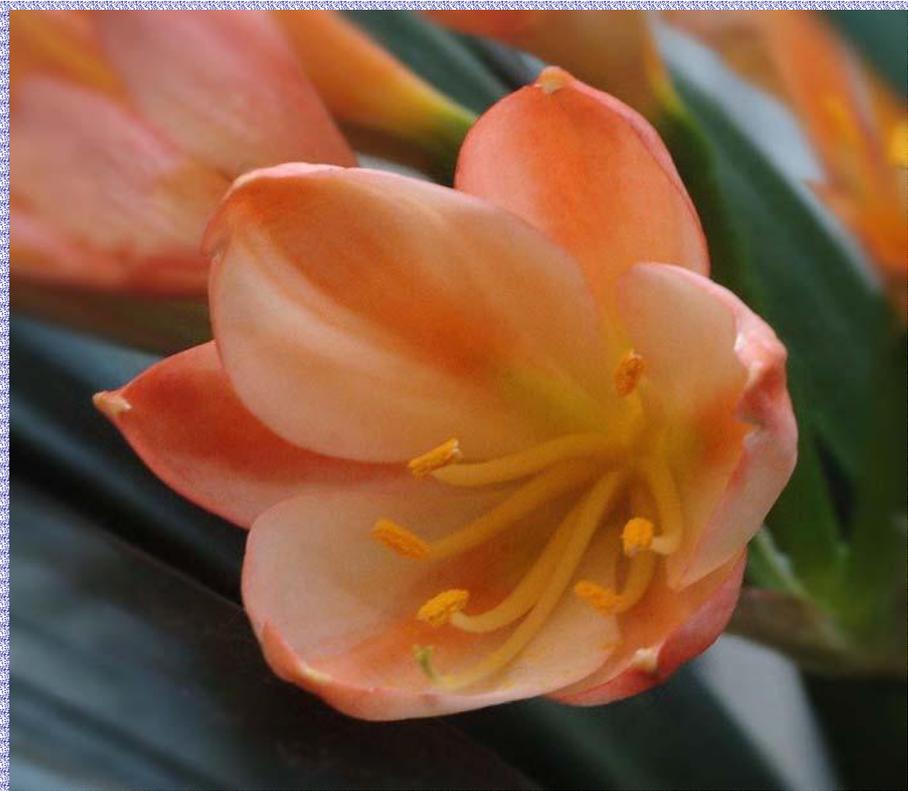
## NEWZLETTER

Vol. 4.1 Autumn March 2006



Chairman : Ian Baldick

Secretary : Di Smith



*From Ian Coates (England) My beautiful Clivia flowering at present. The centre stripe is more distinct in real life and is new for me. I'm not sure of its background.*

Dear Members and Friends..

Welcome to the first 2006 NewZLetter. We are grateful for all the contributors to this edition. We look forward to a year of wonderful flowering hybrid Clivias. Many of you planted seeds 3- 4 years ago that should flower this season from your own crossings. It will be exciting to see them. To all the enthusiasts that have sent in photos – thank you. Keep sending !

Thank you to Kev and Coral Larsen for their informative talk in February. Check out the photos of their marvellous Clivia collection back home in Toowoomba.

We also look forward to the Winter Clivia Show in June. We received an email from Willie and Cynthia Le Roux . They are counting down the days to their trip here. We will send you Updates throughout the year to keep you informed.

To all of you, wherever you may be, happy Clivianating.

Kindest regards from the Editorial Team  
Stuart Hill, Di Smith and Murray Gow



### Coming Events

#### ➤ Meetings for 2006

We took note of the survey forms you completed re preferred meeting times at one of the meetings this year and have booked the AHC for 4 meetings.(we have had one)

**Thursday 13 April 7.30pm**

Dr Rod Bielecki – Mark this talk in your diary. Rod is an exceptional speaker and great friend of the Club.

**Thursday 29 June 7.30pm**

Dr Keith Hammett Type 1 and Type 2 Yellows

**Thursday 10 August 7.30pm**

GRAND CLIVIA AUCTION  
Details in the next NewZLetter.

All meeting at the Auckland Hort Council Rooms, 990 Great North Road Western Springs Auckland

#### ➤ 2006 WINTER GARDENII SHOW 3 JUNE 2006

**10am to 3pm at  
Joy Plants Nursery Jericho  
Road Pukekohe Clivia  
Display, Garden Tours,  
Sausage Sizzle, Raffles,  
Plant Sales plus more  
Guest Speaker : Willie  
Le Roux from Port  
Elizabeth Sth Africa**

#### ➤ Auckland Clivia Show 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> October 2006

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# FROM THE CHAIRMAN ....

The committee has begun planning for the next 2 years. The priorities for this year are our meetings and special show/plant days. The planned conference in 2008 is still going ahead and the committee hopes to bring the plan to the annual general meeting this year.

The first show day for this year is at Terry and Pam Hatch's place, (June 3) and it is hoped that members from south will join us, for a good day. The other show days are at Auckland, Tauranga, and New Plymouth in October.

The committee has been putting some thought into the Clivia Retailers that come to the shows. The two that we are now focusing on are the one at Pam's and Terry's and Auckland (October). The Committee spends money advertising, etc., these shows, so we need to get value for our members out of them. We will be looking at retailers that support the club and have a wide selection of plants available for members and the public.

The members who are going to the conference in South Africa will be well on the way with their arrangements. NZCC will be well represented in Pretoria. I hope to pick up some ideas for us while I'm there.

A bit of a lull now with flowering but Gardenii season will soon be here. See you at the Winter Show !

Regards Ian Baldick – Chairman NZCC

**For Sale : at all meetings and shows : 2 kg bags of Nitrophoska Blue @ \$4 per 2kg bag**

This is an exceptional price. Details and application of Nitrophoska as follows :

**Nitrophoska® Blue Special Fertiliser The Great All Rounder**

12-5-4-6 + Magnesium, Sulphur & micro nutrients Nitrophoska Blue has proven itself to be one of the world's best known and widely used fertilisers. It is a high quality compound NPK fertiliser that can be used on a wide range of vegetables, fruits and ornamentals.

All essential nutrients are contained in each and every granule (homogenous granular fertiliser.) Ideal balance of nutrients and micro nutrients for optimum fruit and flowering performance. Contains both fast acting and longer lasting Nitrogen. Potassium is 100 % in the Sulphate form, ideal for chloride sensitive plants and crops.

Near Neutral effect on soil pH level. Directions: Pre-plant Base dressing Apply 75 g per square metre as a pre-plant base dressing. Side Dressing Apply 75 g per square metre as a side dressing, dig lightly into soil and water in well. APPLICATION FOR SHRUBS, ORNAMENTALS, FRUIT TREES Same rate as above. 1st side dressing in early spring. 2nd side dressing in November 3rd side dressing in March APPLICATION FOR ROSES Same rate as above 1st side dressing at leaf burst. 2nd side dressing November - December 3rd side dressing in February - March

APPLICATION FOR VEGETABLES Same rate as above. 1st side dressing at planting, thereafter repeat at monthly intervals during the growing period.

## Packing your seeds for Airmail..

*We have had a number of enquiries from members asking for the best way to package seeds for mailing. The attached photo is of vacuumed packed miniata seeds sent to me by Ray Sidoti. Ray sent a few packets of seeds, each one vacuum packed with the seeds coated in Flowers of Sulphur. For some reason this one packet fell down behind the vegetable bin in the fridge and was not seen until a good clean out (apologies Ray, I know you will read this.. and yes, I know I was slack, but around show time most of my regular household chores 'go west') Six months in the fridge had not at all hindered the growth of the seeds. In fact, all are now fast growing seedlings.*

*I have had at times, other seeds in plastic bags, paper bags, plastic containers, film cannisters etc, but these seeds have been the best preserved by far, especially with the 100% germination rate. Thanks Ray, next time I promise to germinate right away.*



*Di Smith - Auckland*



# A Tribute to the late David Conway

Stuart Hill writes..

We celebrate the amazing life of Dave Conway who sadly died in January this year. As most of you know, Dave's first love (after Nancy and family of course) was trout fishing. I spent a wonderful time chatting to Dave in March 2004 about catching wily trout in NZ with home tied flies and comparing this to his extensive experiences in his favourite secluded US spots. Dave's second love was of course, Clivia and hybridising. Many of us have over the years visited Dave and Nancy in Santa Barbara and enjoyed their marvellous hospitality. Dave leaves a wonderful legacy of colourful hybrid clivias for generations to come and as the saying goes 'Enough Clivias for Africa'!

Keith Hammett writes as follows .. "I have happy memories of Dave and Nancy. I first visited him some years ago when passing through Santa Barbara. I was there so long that they sent out for food and I stayed well into the evening.

A plant from seed from 'Lemon Chiffon' that he gave me on that visit, flowered for the first time last season and proved to be an American peach. Last Easter I visited him on my own in the week before the symposium and we spent the whole day at his place and elsewhere in Santa Barbara. I had expected to see him at the symposium, but they had a death in the family and they could not attend, so it was the last time I saw him."



Above Left : Dave Conway's 'Sabrina Delphine' Above Right : Dave Conway amongst his beloved Clivias  
 Below Right : Dave Conway's 'Sabrina Jean' & below 'Tessa' Photos S Hill (March 2004)  
 Below left : Dave Conway's 'Party Colours' Kindly Labelled by T Wells



## Report From the Meeting Held 9<sup>th</sup> February - Visiting Guest Speakers Kev and Coral Larsen from Toowoomba

January and February have been intensely hot months here in Auckland. Each day we hoped and prayed for a drop of rain. That is every day except Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup>, the evening our meeting and BBQ had been planned. The only night in 6 weeks and the heavens opened and of course the motorways became blocked, preventing many to make the BBQ on time. Nevertheless, our hardy members still turned up for a shared BBQ and our Toowoomba visitors were again immersed in the culture of the Kiwi Barbie. Kev and Coral Larsen hail from Toowoomba. They have been over there since 1968. Both were born here, and were back for a well earned rest and a short visit to North Island relatives. Kev is from Otaki and Coral from Te Aroha. They emigrated for a 2 year working holiday to Australia and forgot to come home !

Kev and Coral have been breeding and growing Clivia for 26 years on 10 acres a few miles out of Toowoomba on the edge of the Brisbane River. They talked to us about their breeding strategies, hybridised crosses and of course the Toowoomba Flower Festival of which they are a big part. Kev and Corals photos of gorgeous pendulous crosses, huge inflorescence of miniata in an array of colours from near white to deep red were a mind-blowing experience. I have to say that many in the audience were drooling at the magnificence of the blooms.

We appreciated Kev and Coral taking the time to talk to us and hope to build on the relationship at a Club level with a "Sister Society" relationship with the Toowoomba Clivia Society being established in the near future. This will enable Society to Society seed swaps (and believe me, if you saw the photos you would know that this will be a good thing to do!)

For good clivia growing, Kev and Coral recommend :

- Let the clivias sleep over winter
- Wake them up with a good dose of fertilizer in the spring
- Feed, feed, feed regularly through spring, summer and autumn
- Don't over water. Even in temperatures of 40C + they only water twice a week.

*PS. We are pleased that 8+ members of the Toowoomba Clivia Society have decided to fly over for the weekend of the Clivia Show in Auckland this coming October*



*Below : Kev and Coral Larsen*

*Above : A few of the members*



A Selection of  
Clivia Blooms  
from the stables  
of Kev and  
Coral Larsen..



# FROM OUR MEMBERS SHADEHOUSES..



Roger Dixon : Left - a beautiful tri-colour (note no yellow in the throat), purchased from a garden nursery  
Right – pink blush interspecific



From Alick McLeman Above Left : *C. gardenii* – Everton Falls Above Right : Australian *C. cyrtanthiflora*



From Aart van Voorst : Above left Chimeric Orange *miniata* Above Right : diploid and tetraploid crosses

The seeds are from a cross between a diploid yellow *miniata* and one of my biggest flowering chimeric orange *miniatas*. The chimeric nature of the father accounts for some n-gametes. So I can't give any guarantee about the triploid nature of the seeds. Even a tetraploid is possible, as I have seen in the combination diploid *caulescens* – tetraploid *miniata*. Also the quality of the material is not naturally superior being polyploid. The chance on a outstanding plant is in polyploids as small(big) as in normal crosses... In most diploid-triploid crosses I perform embryoculture because the endosperm is not 100% or even very bad. This is a cross with relative normal endosperm although not perfect as you can see. This year I tried some comparable seeds for germination in vivo and some managed to survive

## Non-Traditional Uses for Clivia..



From our member Bossie de Kock (Pretoria South Africa)

During Sept/Oct 2005 a Cape Robin nested in my shade house and produced two babies. The pictures I am sending you is from a new nest, made at my back door also by a Cape Robin. Both nests were made in a pot and I had difficulty in watering the poor plant and not endangering the babies.

Regards, Bossie

... FOR SOME CLIVIA



IT HAS BEEN A FLUFFY WHITE XMAS

### Mealy Bugs –How to Knock 'em Out

This summer, with high humidity and high temperatures, Mealy Bugs have been having a real field day.

A few hints and helps :

- Check your clivia regularly (especially the potted ones). Squash with your fingers any small white patches you see.
- Have a regular spraying schedule in place.
- Use confidor, which is a systemic, active constituent 50g/kg Imidacloprid or Orthine also systemic (use as directed)
- You can purchase Confidor in an aerosol can from the supermarket but it is cheaper from the local nursery, hardware or stockfeed supplier for \$14.95 per pack of 5 sachets.
- If you don't like using poisons try 50/50 meths & water. Keep a spray bottle of this on hand so that every time you see them you can zap them before they do much damage.
- Choke the MB's ! - Fill your empty milk bottles with water and empty over your clivias. The fat in the milk chokes the MB's.



# Clivia Breeding

***(This article was written by Johan Spies, a geneticist at UOFS and a member of the Bloemfontein Clivia Interest group, for that group. He has kindly given permission for it to be sent to CCC & NZCC members.)***

*Clivia* is a genus with an enormous morphological variation. This makes *Clivia* an ideal genus for plant breeders.

Before embarking on a breeding programme for *Clivia*, you have to plan your strategy. What do you want to improve? Factors that should be considered include time, age, money, space, available material and your “ideal *Clivia*”.

Time: know how much time you have to spend with your plants. With more time you may employ a more elaborate breeding programme (more plants included in the programme and more characters involved).

Age: on average a new generation is obtained every five years (four years for the plant to mature and one year for the seed formed by your cross to ripen). A twenty year old can theoretically plan a large scale breeding operation and will hopefully see the results, whereas a 90-year old person should expect less.

Money: how much are you willing to spend? More money will allow you to buy mature plants with most of the qualities you want (expensive) and will be directly correlated with the environment in which your *Clivias* will grow (under a tree or elaborate shade/greenhouses, etc.).

Space: how much space do you have available? The more space you have the more ambitious you can be. The number of plants needed to obtain the desired result will be discussed later.

Available material: what material do you have? do you have mature plants with the desired qualities or do you have to buy everything? Can you buy seeds (inexpensive (sometimes) and time consuming) or do you have to buy mature plants (expensive but fast) (time).

“The ideal *Clivia*”: What do you want to get from your breeding programme? Beauty is in the eye of the beholder This is true for *Clivia*. Everybody wants something different: broader leaves, brighter colours, more flowers, another shape of the tepals, should the **tepals** be curved inward or outward, etc. So a plant discarded by you may be exactly what someone else may dream about. Conserve the genepool; even an ugly looking (if you can get an ugly *Clivia*) individual may have genes resistant to some pests. Also remember that you often have to sacrifice something to reach another goal. If you are interested in variegated leaves and eventually obtain the ultimate variegation, remember that you

are actually dealing with a “sick” plant and do not expect that plant to be as vigorous as plants with normal chlorophyll. Be realistic with your goals!

When all these factors have been considered you can finally start your breeding programme. This programme can be divided into three different parts: crosses, selection and keeping records.

The process of making crosses seems simple. However, it needs careful planning. Before you do any crosses you should know the genetic background of your material. This means that you should know whether a plant is true-breeding for a certain character. In many instances *Clivia* breeders cross two F<sub>1</sub>'s (first generation hybrids) with one-another. In this way it is impossible to predict the outcome of your cross. In annuals you first get inbred (true-breeding) lines by self-fertilizing each generation (about seven times) and then you produce a hybrid between two such lines. In these cases you can exactly predict how the hybrid (F<sub>1</sub>) will look. It is also possible to predict what will happen when the F<sub>1</sub> is self-fertilized - when dealing with only one character you will get a ratio of 3:1; with two characters you will get a ratio of 9:3:3:1, etc. It is impossible to follow this ‘traditional’ way of breeding in a slow propagating plant like *Clivia*. However, by knowing the genetic background of your plants you will be able to calculate the probability of obtaining your desired plant.

By keeping records of all your material and using your material in test crosses you will be able to determine each plant’s genetic make-up. Use 2-3 flowers for self-pollination to determine for which traits your plant is true breeding and for which ones it is still segregating. Do test crosses (again 2-3 flowers) with plants with a known genetic background (for example group 1 or 2 yellow) to determine to which group your yellows belong. Keep in mind that the more characters you are looking for, the slimmer your chances of obtaining it. A formula,  $1/4^n$ , can be used to calculate the number of true breeding stock you will get from a cross involving  $n$  different characters.

If you cross a normal *C miniata* with the pendulous *C nobilis* you will get a hybrid with semi-pendulous flowers. Self-pollination of that hybrid will result in  $1/4$  true-breeding pendulous (or true-breeding ‘normal’ flowers) plants. When two characters are involved the chances for any particular true breeding offspring is  $1/16$ . In other words, if you try to get a true breeding plant for 5 characters you will have to produce at least 1024 F<sub>2</sub> offspring to get one desired plant.

There will be more plants that have the same appearance, but the majority will not be true breeding.

The moral of the story is that the more characters you want to improve, the more offspring should be produced and the more vigorous the selection process will be. The process can be accelerated by starting with material containing most of the desired traits.

In a breeding programme certain genetic principles must be acknowledged. Three of these will be addressed briefly:

**1. Normal Mendelian inheritance:** This is the straightforward way of inheritance where two pure breeding plants with different traits are crossed, only one of these traits is observed in the hybrids, self-pollination of the hybrids result in a ratio of 3:1 (3 plants have the trait observed in the hybrid -only one of them will be true breeding for this trait; 1 plant will have the trait from *its*

grandparent that was not observed in the hybrid - it will be true breeding for this trait).

**EXAMPLE:**

Yellow (aa) x Orange (AA)

F<sub>1</sub> Orange (Aa)

F<sub>2</sub> 3 Orange (1 AA: 2 Aa): 1 Yellow (aa)

**2. Polygenic inheritance:** This is where many genes contribute to the same thing, for example broad leaves. This is a more complex way of inheritance where each gene will contribute additively to the width. Let us keep it simple and assume three gene pairs contribute to the width of the leaves and each gene contribute 2 cm.

**EXAMPLE:**

6 cm (AAbbcc) x 10 cm (aaBBCC)

F<sub>1</sub> 8 cm (AaBbCc)

F<sub>2</sub> 1x2cm(aabbcc); 6x4cm; 15x6cm; 20x8cm; 15x10cm; 6x12cm; 1 x 14 cm (AABBCC)

So, to improve the width you should cross unrelated (plants that did not get their 'broad' genes from the same source) plants and self-pollinate the offspring. A low percentage should be very broad leaved. If you cross related plants (broad leaves of both plants originated from a Belgian broad leaved individual) the chances of obtaining broader leaves are very slim.

**3. Cytoplasmic inheritance:** This is where the mother (pollen receptor) is the only one contributing to the inheritance. An example of this type of inheritance is observed in variegated leaves.

**EXAMPLE:**

	Cross 1	Cross 2
Variegated (seed parent) x green	Green (seed parent) x variegated	
F <sub>1</sub> Variegated	Green	

This is an oversimplification of the inheritance of leaf variegation. More and more evidence is described indicating that the nuclear genes may play a role in the variegation. In many other species nuclear *genes* are known to play a role in cytoplasmic inheritance.

Another aspect of *Clivia* breeding is frequently misunderstood: heterosis. When two inbred lines are crossed the hybrid is more vigorous than any prediction from the parents would suggest. This phenomenon of unpredicted vigour is known as heterosis. The chances of observing real heterosis or a high degree of heterosis in *Clivia* is extremely low since a totally inbred *Clivia* line does not exist.

A last bit that should be emphasized is keeping of records. Any breeding programme with no records is tempting doom. When you have an extensive collection it is necessary to plan before

starting to pollinate plants. It is a good idea to keep two different sets of records. In the first instance keep a record of all your material with a full pedigree of each plant and the genetic background known of each specimen. From this a second set of records can be extracted (especially when it is a computer-based set of records) for breeding purposes. Everybody has their own way in which they keep it. I prefer to use a single number system in my pots and the breeding record will indicate my planned crosses for a specific season. The following is an extract (and example) from seed planted in 2003 and the crosses (or self-pollination - indicated by 'S') that should be done when these plants eventually reach maturity:

<b>Plant no.</b>	<b>Origin</b>	<b>Crosses</b>
03/018	(Naude P x Chubb P) F <sub>2</sub> x (Naude P x Natal Y) F <sub>3</sub>	S, 03/019 & 03/020
03/019	Wittig P x Chubb P	S, 03/018
03/020	Bing Wiese A F <sub>2</sub>	03/018 & 02/134
03/021	Garden Mix (C. Vermaak)	S
03/022	Cyrtanthiflora P	S, 02/134

## **CONCLUSION.**

1. Set yourself a goal, based on careful planning.
2. Obtain the material to achieve your goal.
3. Cross your plants.
4. Keep records of all *crosses*.
5. Select the desired plants (remember, everybody finds something else interesting .your failures may be valuable to somebody else. Sell your discarded plants to finance your project).
6. **ENJOY WHAT YOU ARE DOING!**

***John and Beth van der Linde write..***

## **OUR CLIVIA TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND**

Having previously visited NZ – for three weeks in the middle of winter – Beth and I were prepared for lovely scenery, spouting geysers and Maori culture, but not for the magnificence of your spring and the warmth of your welcome, which exceeded all our expectations. Thanks so much to the NZCC for inviting us, to those of you who welcomed us into your homes, especially Di and Stuart, and to everyone we met, brought together by our shared interest in clivias. Isn't that what belonging to a Clivia Club is all about?

Since arriving home I have set out to 'spread the word' about NZ, your clivias, and the super people that we met. I have arranged to speak about our trip to South African Clubs and have already spoken to two of them, using 115 pictures (out of plenty more!) taken at your shows and at the growers we visited. They have been an eye-opener to many and I hope will encourage South African clivia folk to visit NZ, especially for your planned October 2008 International Conference – nicely timed as it comes after the end of our mainly- September flowering season.

What aspects of our visit stood out for me? Well, my eyes were those of someone wearing many hats (If that makes sense to you!): clivia fancier, grower, breeder, seller, helper at Shows, amateur photographer, Club Committee member, and someone on the look out for bright ideas for all of the above.

Let me start at the Auckland Show. What a great venue for a flower show; excellent all-round visibility, and innovative layout by your Club to display plants, the floral arrangements and the shot-glasses with individual blooms. What a good way to encourage newer members, who might otherwise be hesitant about taking part. These are ideas I have passed on here.



*Left : Beth found a favourite at the Auckland Show    Centre : 'It's a small world after all' – one of John's Cape Town Rotary colleagues is Peggy Pike's cousin    Right : John with the Auckland crew*

The sellers displayed their wares very professionally. I liked Keith Hammett's approach of showing photos of both parents of his seedlings, and also the signed "Certificates of Authenticity" accompanying each sucker ( Sorry Di, I mean 'offshoot'!). As someone previously involved with an intangible product –life insurance – I understand and appreciate efforts made to give customers confidence in the yet-to-flower plants they are buying.

We in South Africa can also learn from Peggy Pike. I am sure that the efforts she put into "gift-wrapping" plants must have been good for her sales. I wasn't quite sure what to make of David Brundell's Japanese language apron and wall display, but I am sure they did his sales no harm....!

The atmosphere amongst exhibitors seemed more relaxed than would be the case at South African Shows, where plants are competitively judged. Of course, in some peoples' eyes, the judges at our Shows seldom get it right, and you can hear mutters for the rest of the year! I don't think that, with your approach, you are missing much by not having judging. I like the way you instead involve the public in choosing "The peoples' favourite". The plant chosen may not always be a plant for the purists, but is still a useful indication to growers/sellers of the public's then current taste. But the big question is: what will excite the public next year?

The range of plants/colours was, understandably, narrower than would be seen at one of the larger South African Shows – our gene pool is so much bigger. I was surprised to note the high proportion of yellows on show, and the relatively small number of dark orange/reds that I somehow had expected to see. However, what impressed me as a breeder was how your growers have line-bred with particular well-known plants; Terry Hatch with his Aberconway Yellow, Ian Duncalf with Solomone stock, Murray Gow with 'Sir John Thouron', and David Brundell with Vico Yellow. Alick McLeman, again, is working on totally different lines, particularly in developing his peaches. I contrast this more disciplined approach with that more often followed in South Africa, where many of us cross-pollinate rather haphazardly.



*Left : John with Murray and Bev Gow outside the Gows front door Centre : John with Jenny Foster and Michael Budd at Jenny's garden. Right : After the Tauranga Show : dinner at Robin Scoular's home - Ian Duncalf front right*

When visiting another country one almost instinctively compares prices, often using a product that is much the same in both countries. Some people look at "Big Mac" hamburgers; I look at cans of beer, bought in 24's. I saw a magnificent yellow clivia, with at least two umbels of flowers, sold at the Show for \$60, equivalent to the cost of 50 beers in Auckland. That plant would have cost say R300 here, more than the R264 straight conversion to South African currency, and a lot more than the R176 cost of 50 beers here. Conclusion for those of you visiting South Africa later this year: clivias may be relatively more expensive, but enjoy your beers while you are here!

We enjoyed our visits to the large properties of Keith Hammett, David Brundell, Terry Hatch and Ian Duncalf, and appreciated the variety of other plants that they have the space to grow. The average South African clivia grower, usually on a smallish suburban property, is often swamped by clivias, with other plants pushed into the background. It is easy for well-balanced and broad interest to be replaced by a narrow clivia obsession – just see our place! Maybe other NZCC members, on smaller properties, have the same problem?

We also enjoyed the social get-togethers in Auckland, Tauranga and Oakura and I was more than once reminded of what a member of a daylily club somewhere said: "I joined for the plants – I stay for the people".

Our stay in NZ reached a stunning climax with our visit to the hospitable John Sole's and Tony Barnes' magnificent Ngamamaku Gardens, where I took many, many pictures. What a great venue for an end-of-season Clivia exhibition! It seems to me that the NZCC has a clear strategy to get exposure and grow interest in clivias by - I can think of no other word – "piggybacking" on other Shows/Festivals which pull in the crowds. May you go from strength to strength.

Would we come again? You bet we would!



*Left: Beth admires Ian and Barb Duncalf's gardens Centre : Terry Hatch took John and Beth on a guided tour of the Auckland Botanic Gardens Right : A day out with Mike Styles and friends Below : At Tony Barnes and John Sole's property, Ngamamaku Gardens*



## PLANTS BEING CONSIDERED FOR 'BANNED PLANT LIST'

We were invited to attend a recent meeting organised by NGIA (Nursery and Garden Industry Assoc). Palm and Cycad Society of NZ, LIANZ, Auckland Horticulture Council and other organisations were represented. It was called because of these organisations concerns about the new list of plants considered for banning by Biosecurity and ARC. The main plants being three palms and agapanthus. They intend banning all agapanthus including sterile cultivars. There are other plants on the list of concern as well.

The conclusion was to insist that true scientific research in NZ needs to be carried out before a plant is considered for banning and to liaise with the ARC and the above mentioned organisations.

As you are aware, our Committee worked extremely hard 18 months ago to have DoC apologise for erroneous comments relating to Clivia, made in a Northland newspaper. We urge you to support NGIA via the various societies to which you belong, to ensure that only pest plants make it to the banned list. This is an important issue effecting the future of the NZ gardener and plant enthusiast.

For further information check out [www.ngia.co.nz](http://www.ngia.co.nz)

### Update on .. ERMA (Environmental Risk Management Authority) and the importation of *Clivia* plant material into NZ.

*The committee wishes to thank all persons who have donated towards the costs of the Licence Fee for the application of for a 'Rapid Release' to be made for C. mirabilis to ERMA. We appreciate the interest shown by our members and especially thank the overseas donors. Keith Hammett has agreed to lodge the Licence on behalf of the Club. We will notify all members as soon as we have the Licence approved or any further information thereon.*

**Registering Your Clivia – A few years back we asked Ken Smith to provide information on naming Clivias. Many of you still have questions. This following was taken from the Clivia interest group site. Ken answers the questions..**

Quest..What are the requirements to be able to name your own Clivia hybrids?

*Ken..You need an imaginative mind and a new Clivia that is unique and distinct.*

Quest..What are the restrictions and procedures to be able to name your own Clivias?

*Ken..Check the application form on my website. Work your way through each section.*

Quest..Can anyone create a name for a hybrid Clivia that has been produced from parent Clivias they have either previously bred - or purchased from someone else?

*Ken..Yes*

Quest..Is that name then protected even if no formal trademark is established or, if not, what procedure must be followed to ensure the name isn't used by someone else?

*Ken..Trademarks have nothing to do with cultivar names. The naming of horticultural plants is a system based on honesty. There are examples of the same name being used for widely different Clivias. There are many examples of "names" being used to sell Clivia on eBay.*

Quest..Is there one location to check to find all previously named Clivias to verify that the name chosen is unique?

*Ken..I maintain a register of names that contains names I have researched as well as the few that have been formally registered with me. There are always new names cropping up. These are from people who don't know the extent of the Clivia fraternity, as well as from people who do.*

Quest..Also, I know that Clivia names that have been trademarked (i.e., Victorian Peach) are protected. Does that also mean that no one can create a different name for a plant bred with the same parentage as ones already named?

*Ken..The name VICTORIAN PEACH is protected, not the plant. It is a trademark not a registered cultivar name.*

*Here it gets a bit more confusing because people use Clivia names at crossed purposes. Many of these issues have been discussed on this forum before and there are many articles in the various Clivia Society publications.*

Ken Smith - International Registrar for CLIVIA

# RESCUING THE OFFSETS FROM A ROTTING CLIVIA !

We have had a large number of requests for help from members who have been plagued with rotting clivia. Unfortunately, the rain and the high humidity we have experienced over the summer months have not been conducive for ideal Clivia growing.

I recently lost one large clivia in the garden and after investigating as to why it had happened, I realised that the plant was sitting in a garden at the foot of steps. When the rain came, the water thundered down the steps and pooled around the helpless clivia.

I purchased a large clivia last October and after a couple of weeks discovered that it was well and truly rotting in the crown of the plant. Thankfully it had a couple of offsets, so I set about on a rescue mission for the baby offsets. Here's what I did, in photo form. It may not be the correct way, but it has worked before. The 2 offsets are now growing nicely in their own pots.

*A reminder : always use a super clean knife. I cleaned my knife in neat janola.*

*Stuart Hill  
Auckland*



*Step 1. Remove the plant from the pot*



*Step 2. Check the extent of the rot*



*Step 3. Hose the roots to disentangle them*



*Step 4. Clean all the old mix off the roots and carefully separate the roots*



*Step 5. Carefully slice the offset off, with as many roots as possible*



*Step 6. Separate the offsets*



*Step 7. Cover the wounds with Flowers of Sulphur and a fungicide*



*Step 8. Leave the plants out for a couple of days so the wounds "scab". Remember to cover the leaves with newspaper.*



*Step 9. Pot up the offsets. Don't water for a few days to allow the scab to fully dry off*

## SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE 1 JANUARY 2006

### Have you paid your 2006 subs ?

If you have not paid your 2006 membership subs, we regret that this will be the last NewZLetter you will receive for this year.

The annual subscription has been kept at \$15.00 (per person or couple) for 2006 and covers the cost of hall hire, show facilities, guest speakers, research etc. We appreciate your continued support.

### Contact information :

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71 Taylor Road Mangere Bridge  
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I was at the Doctors at Christmas when three old folk came in for their annual mental check. The Doctor held up a picture of three Clivia flowers and asked each "How many Clivia can you see?". The first answered "Thursday". The second answered "A lemon" and the third answered "Three". "Very good" said the Doctor to the third. "How do you know?". "That's easy" said third. "I just took away a lemon from Thursday".

Know how they feel?

Best wishes for a great 2006 Ian Coates (England)

### Clivia Society - Year Book 7

We have still have a number of these excellent books for sale. \$20 plus \$1 p&p

Send you chq to the Secretary 71 Taylor Road, Mangere Bridge

## Trading Table / Seed Bank

The trading table and Seed Bank has been a great success this year, raising valuable funds towards the 2008 Clivia Conference. If you have any donations, please email the Secretary. The trading table will be at each meeting/show next year and is not limited to the sale of clivias. Thanks to everyone who has donated during 2005 and made these fund-raisers a success. We urgently need more seeds – for new members and the trading table – please contact the Secretary for more details – 09-6346807 - thank you.

## BOOKS FOR SALE

✚	<i>Cultivation of Clivias – the best ever Clivia handbook published</i>	20.00
✚	<i>Clivia Society Year Books – a must for every clivia enthusiasts</i>	Year Books 2 – 4 15.00
✚	<i>Year Book 7 – this one is exceptional, great articles, beautiful photos</i>	Year Books 5 - 7 20.00
✚	<i>'Growing Clivias' by Graham Duncan – very popular and selling fast</i>	20.00
✚	<i>'Hints on Growing' for all new clivia enthusiasts</i>	8.00
✚	<i>'Clivias' by Harold Koopowitz – the Bible of clivias</i>	<del>80.00</del> 75.00
✚	<i>'Appreciation of Clivia' with English translation</i>	<del>80.00</del> 65.00
✚	<i>'Changchun Clivias' beautiful photos from China</i>	<del>65.00</del> 55.00
✚	<i>Notecards – 4 Clivia cards and envelopes per pkt Perfect for birthday and greeting cards</i>	<del>5.00</del> 4.00
✚	<i>Pollen tubes – pkts of 10. With cap for easy storage.</i>	2.00
✚	<i>Colour Charts – check the colours on your blooms this coming season</i>	10.00

Post your cheque made payable to 'NZ Clivia Club' (please include \$1 for small books and \$3.50 postage for larger books) and post your order to The Secretary, NZCC, 71 Taylor Road, Mangere Bridge, Auckland

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Medium

*You've all done the Sudoku puzzles in the daily paper, here's a Clivia related one with a chance to win a prize!  
Have some fun, test your brainpower.. Fill in the gaps with a Clivia related word  
Send your completed grid to nzclivia@clear.net.nz or 71 Taylor Rd Mangere Bridge Akl to win a pkt of Clivia seeds If  
you're overseas, you're also eligible. Closing date 20 March 2006*

*The winner of the last puzzle was Judith Nolan of Mission Bay Auckland - The Answer : Caulescens*

## Notices

- Sellers at the Winter Clivia Show – Saturday June 3.** Due to limited selling space and the need for a diverse and wide range of Clivia being made available to members and the public, the committee have requested that all persons wishing to sell at the Winter Clivia Show register their interest by 31 March 2006 with the Secretary ([nzclivia@clear.net.nz](mailto:nzclivia@clear.net.nz) or 09-6346807). Shortly thereafter, sellers will be notified of their acceptance and space available to them. We are fortunate that we have a few new members wishing to sell who specialise in the 'Chinese' type of Clivia and we are sure that the Club will be able to offer an exciting array of Clivia plants for display and sale. See the Weekend Gardener magazine for advertisements.
- Ellerslie Flower Show November 14 -19.** The Committee have agreed to again display at the Ellerslie Flower Show this coming November. However, we need your help to achieve this. Terry and Lindsey Hatch have kindly offered to 'store, bury and delay flowering' Clivia plants on our behalf. They have been successful in the past and hopefully, we will have a good number of flowering Clivia to display. A few plants have already been given to Terry, but we need more variety (ie. Pastels, yellows, green throats, multipetals, reds, nobilis, caulescens, interspecifics) . If you have any plants that you are willing to part with for a few months, so flowering can be delayed till November, would you please take them to Terry on June 3 (Winter Show). If you have any queries, please phone Ian Baldick on 09-2948714 Many thanks.
- Grand Clivia Plant Auction –** To raise funds for the 2008 International Clivia Conference to be held here in Auckland the Committee have decided to hold a Clivia Auction on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August. Michael Budd has taken responsibility for the Auction and is available on 021-545318. Details in the next NewZLetter
- NewZLetters by Snail Mail –** If you currently receive NewZLetters by mail and now have a computer, would you kindly contact the Secretary with your email address. Thanks [nzclivia@clear.net.nz](mailto:nzclivia@clear.net.nz)

# More m-umbel-ings from Up North

When the 'Winterless North' is busy proving itself otherwise, my Other Half is unable to repress his migratory urges. His forestry equipment is abandoned in the garage. I am prised from the garden and we head off to warmer climes. In our absence the following story unfolds....

## THE ENCHANTED FOREST...

### SCENE ONE

It is a sunny spring morning. The camera sweeps high over the rolling countryside of Northland. It slows, giving an aerial view of a plantation of *Pinus radiata*, before coming down to rest in a neighbouring field. The field has many sheep and fat lambs. The camera pans around the field before coming to focus on two sheep close to the fence between the field and the forest. Zoom in for close-up.

Sheep 1: (*Gazing at forest thoughtfully*) Hmmmm.

Sheep 2: We're gonna starve if we have to stay in here much longer. We've pretty much only got ragwort\* left to eat.

Sheep 1: But soft what light through yonder fence-gap breaks.

Sheep 2: Ay???!!!

Sheep 1: Shakespeare.

Sheep 2: What's the good of that then?

Sheep 1: Not much, but have you seen this gap under the fence? There's even enough room to get your big woolly butt through there.

Sheep 2: (*Sniff*) There's only stupid pine trees in there.

Sheep 1: And long grass. Better than ragwort, ay?

Sheep 2: But that's not our place. And it only looks greener than it really is, 'cos its on the other side.

Sheep 1: Yeah, but worth investigating, optical illusion or not.

Sheep 2: But the Farmer will miss us, and then we'll be in trouble. Dog Tucker, ay?

Sheep 1: No, he won't even know we're gone. He'll be asleep before he counts up to us. C'mon, live a little. Round up the Offspring and lets give it a go.

Sheep 2: OK. (*Over shoulder*) C'mon Kids. (*Standing to attention*) Right then, lead on.

The two sheep and three lambs squeeze through the gap under the fence and walk off uphill along a forestry track. Fadeout into the distance.

### SCENE TWO

The camera pans 360° around a beautiful garden enclosed by pine forest. Standing in the middle on the lawn are the sheep looking about in amazement. Birdsong fades as the camera zooms in to the sheep.

Sheep1: Wow! A garden!

Sheep 2: Paradise!

Sheep 1: Who'd a thought? All these years and we never knew all this was just next door.

Sheep 2: Yum.

Sheep 1: Watch the Offspring don't eat anything poisonous.

Sheep 2: How do I tell what's safe to eat?

Sheep 1: Keep away from the exotic looking stuff. The natives are a pretty safe bet, or just keep to the lawn. It looks juicy enough.

Sheep 2: OK.

The sheep eagerly explore the garden. We leave them chewing the new growth off a row of young *Hoheria populnea*, N.Z. lacebark trees.

### SCENE THREE

The early morning daylight increases to reveal another idyllic day in another part of the garden. The five sheep are eating the lawn. The lambs cavort carelessly. The light gradually fades to darkness.

### SCENE FOUR

Repeat of scene three, with a different view of the garden.

### SCENE FIVE

Open as for scene four. The camera pans to reveal a house at the end of the driveway. A vehicle approaches the house along the driveway. Close as for scene four with the sheep still in the garden.

### SCENE SIX

Open as for scene four.

Sheep 1: I guess we should put in an appearance at the ragwort field. Check out what's going on. Tell the others about this place.

Sheep 2: Must we? Yeah, I suppose the mob will be getting pretty hungry by now.

The sheep amble from view along a garden path.

### SCENE SEVEN

Inside the house.

Gardener: Ahh, it's nice to be home.

Forester: Its still too cold. We should have stayed away longer.

Gardener: I'm going out to check if everything's ok.

Forester: I'm stoking up the fire.

Gardener exits out door in a blast of cold air.



#### SCENE EIGHT

Inside the house. Daylight is fading. The people are sitting down to their evening meal.

Gardener: There sure is a lot of animal poo in the garden. Those b. wild pigs must have been having a good time while we were away. Lucky they haven't ploughed up the lawn isn't it?

Forester: (*Not really listening*) Hmm.

Sheep 2: (*Loudly, from out of sight*) BAAA!

Gardener: (*Knowingly*) Ah ha.

#### SCENE NINE

Open similar to scene three. The sheep are suddenly alarmed by something.

Sheep 1: SHH! Did you hear something?

Sheep 2: (*Looking up*) Wot's that??!!

An apparition is coming across the lawn. As it gets closer we can see it's a somewhat agitated gardener.

Gardener: *###\* & \*##\*%\*!!*

Sheep 2: Uh oh. I thought you said They were on holiday.

Sheep 1: Exit stage left.

Sheep 2: Wot?

Sheep 1: Run for it. Now!

Sheep 2: Back to the ragwort field?

Sheep 1: No, just far enough to get out of sight.

The sheep run off, disappearing from view along a garden path. The gardener picks up a bucket and trowel and begins collecting the numerous deposits of sheep poo.

#### SCENE TEN

Pan to a patch of Clivia plants in garden.

The gardener is standing in front of the clivias with a bucket of sheep poo in one hand and a trowel in the other.

Clivia : Can we stick to the bought stuff? (*Pleading desperately*) Pu-lease?

#### SCENE ELEVEN

On the forestry track, somewhere between the garden and the hole in the boundary fence.

Sheep 2: (*Still puffing*) Well that's it then. It was good while it lasted. But it'll be ragwort forever now, and that's only if we're lucky.

Sheep 1: No. We just have to schedule trips to the garden at dawn and dusk when They are still inside the house.

Sheep 2: But They will tell the Farmer.

Sheep 1: Yeah, but he'll never fix the fence, so it won't make any difference. Until the mob have to leave that ragwort field.

Sheep 2: And then what?

Sheep 1: (*Looking more relaxed*) I've got plans. I'm gonna write all this down and then sell the movie rights to our little adventure.

Sheep 2: Nah! It'll never work. It's too short for a movie.

Sheep 1: Well, we'll just repeat scene nine over and over until it's long enough.

Sheep 2: But we'll still have to get to town to sell it. Nobody'll come out here to buy a movie, will they? Sheep 1: Don't worry.

We'll make a Toyota commercial first...

Theme music as credits roll, beginning with "Based on a true story"....

And yes, scene nine was repeated over and over.

You probably get the picture by now, but the most important points are that sheep are pretty cute, both physically and mentally, and that Clivia do not feature highly in their menu choices. Their dietary preferences started with

1. New growth on the young hoherias,
2. Lawn
3. New growth on the young hoherias
4. Older growth on the young hoherias
5. Lawn, in the absence of 1,3 and 4 (which are looking a
6. bit thin meanwhile)

Otherwise, they have caused surprisingly little damage in the garden.

And whilst you might be thinking that this is unlikely to occur in your garden (*haha, N.I.M.B.Y. I hear you say*), the statistical ratio of sheep to gardens in this country would, theoretically, tend to support a different outcome.

\*Ragwort, *Senecio jacobaea* is one of many noxious weeds prevalent in our area. The seed disperses by wind (unfortunately to neighbouring properties). Sheep will eat it but only when there is nothing better available.

- Helen Sanders.























