



Nz CLIVIA CLUB INC

NEWZLETTER

Volume 5.1 Summer 2007

Clivia NZ 2008 is on!

Dates have been set for New Zealand to host a 2008 **INTERNATIONAL** clivia get-together. Thursday the 2nd of October is the starting date, Saturday 4th October the Auckland Show day. The next week will centre around the Tauranga and Taranaki shows.

Tony Barnes, Diana Holt, Ian and Shirley Baldick will be involved in the organisation of a tour taking in all the shows, gardens and local growers.

You'll be hearing lots more about **CLIVIA NZ 2008**

Provisional Timetable

Thursday	2 nd Oct	Meet and Greet
Friday	3 rd Oct	Free Day
Saturday	4 th Oct	Auckland Show
Sunday	5 th Oct	Workshop and BBQ
Midweek		Tauranga Show
Saturday	11 th Oct	New Plymouth Show

GLOBAL WARMING OR WHAT?

By Alick Mcleman

Jim Elley, one of our members down Rotorua way, recently mentioned in a note that it had been a great Spring for his Rhododendron and other blooms. To quote him "I can't recall ever seeing the colours so vibrant". Then he raised a rhetorical question, "is it the higher than usual UV levels".

On reflection, this past Spring was a little different. The roses, for instance, were particularly colourful this season. And some have said that their miniata flowering was the best ever. Is it Global Warming or what?

I can't say that my own blooms were exceptional. In fact some miniata, particularly the broad leaf Belgian Hybrids seemed to decide to give the year a miss and not flower at all. But there was no doubt that here in Auckland the miniata flowered earlier than usual by a week or more, and had dropped their florets by the time the Tauranga Show came around a week later. Some were even late for the Auckland Show which was held a few days earlier than usual, the 7th & 8th of October. I

also noticed that the green in some green throat plants seemed more prominent than in previous years. So, yes, I think global warming is making its presence felt.

Every miniata season comes with its pleasant surprises and its disappointments. Some long anticipated blooms do not turn out as expected. But then some compensate by far exceeding expectations. The highlight for me was the flowering of my "Kiwi Kaleidoscope" for the first time, as per the photos. Four siblings flowered and clearly inherited the colour distribution "pattern" of the ovary parent, a South African plant called Kaleidoscope. This confirmed to me that colour distribution is controlled genetically and can be bred into progeny. When seen together they certainly have a kaleidoscopic effect. Very pretty. The mother plant, "Kaleidoscope", a lovely semi-picotee, was selected by Val Thurston from the plantation of Roly Strachan in KwaZulu Natal.

Oh well! 2006 is now behind us and we have Spring 2007 to anticipate. Best Wishes to all for a great Clivia Year.



Kiwi Kaleidoscope



Fantasy

Chairman Ian Baldick
Editor David Olsen

ian.baldick@psa.org.nz
d.olsen@pl.net

Contacts

Secretary Alick Mcleman clivia@xtra.co
26 Merfield Street, Glen Innes, Auckland, NZ
PH 64-9-5213062



1 Tricolour



2 Day Dream



3 Clementina



Photo 4



6 Moulin Rouge



Photo 8



10 Madeline

CLIVIA CAULESCENS & CAULESCENS INTERSPECIFIC HYBRIDS

Helen Marriott, Australia

Charl Malan writes of *C. nobilis* as being the “cinderella” of Clivia species (Yearbook 7, p.45) but what does that make *C. caulescens*? *C. caulescens* rarely appears on the various publicly-available seed lists and we hardly ever hear of anyone discussing a particularly superior form of it. In contrast to *C. gardenii*, *C. robusta*, *C. nobilis* or even *C. mirabilis*, it is unusual to hear reference to variation in the colour of *C. caulescens* (though a yellow form is possessed by a few), flower count or flower shape.

Indeed, *C. caulescens* seems to have come to our attention through some of the magnificent interspecific hybrids in which *C. caulescens* is the non-miniata, pendulous parent. Although others may have also been breeding with *C. caulescens*, it is the breeding of Yoshikazu Nakamura with which I have become familiar over the past couple of years. Nakamura began using caulescens in his interspecific hybrids several decades ago and has produced many exquisite F1s and F2s. One of his own favourites is ‘Tricolour’ (photo1), the name chosen in reference to the three colours of orange, yellow and green found on the flower’s broadish tepals (see Nakamura’s Japanese website: <http://nakamura.nomaki.jp/>) (Regrettably, this plant no longer exists.)

‘Day Dream’ (Photo 2), bred from (orange *C. miniata* x yellow *C. miniata*) x (*C. caulescens* x yellow *C. miniata*) is an elegant, semi-pendulous flower from Nakamura. Despite caulescens being only one of the four plants used in its background, ‘Day Dream’ is a large and vigorous plant that flowers twice yearly.



Photo 5



Photo 7



9 Pansy

Laurens Rijke (Melbourne) has grown numerous Nakamura caulescens interspecific hybrids ((*C. miniata* x *C. caulescens*) x self) from seed and from these has selected out a number of superior plants. (See photos 3,4,5). There is considerable variation in the shape and colour of the flower, but a large proportion of the plants that he has grown are highly attractive. ‘Clementina’ (Photo 3) was one of the early ones to flower for him. Nick Powell (Queensland) has named another Nakamura interspecific as ‘Moulin Rouge’ (Photo 6), while Geoff Wilson (Melbourne) owns a yellow interspecific (Photo 7), also from Nakamura’s caulescens breeding. In addition to frequently selfing his F1 *C. miniata* x *C. caulescens*, Nakamura has also sometimes backcrossed his F1s to yellow *C. miniata*.

These interspecific hybrids typically flower around August in Melbourne, overlapping with early *C. miniata* flowers, or just before them, and then may re-flower in early summer; however, occasional flowering seems to occur throughout the whole year.

Rijke used one of Nakamura’s F1 (*C. miniata* x *C. caulescens*) (Photo 8) and crossed it with the Australian yellow/cream ‘Aurea’. From this cross, he has obtained more exciting plants, with larger, shapely flowers which display considerable variation (Photos 9-12).

While the seed count from *C. caulescens* and its interspecific hybrids may be lower than for some of the other species and hence make it less commercially profitable, both the species and the interspecific hybrids definitely deserve a space in everyone’s collection.



11 Patsy



12 Primrose

Editors Note.

Now that *Clivia caulescens* is legal, thanks to the efforts of past committees and the work of Dr Keith Hammett in getting it onto the Biosecurity Index, we are free to explore the breeding potential of this clivia species. Although it has been in New Zealand for at least thirty years, public appreciation of the value of *C. caulescens* in clivia breeding programs has been muted and of course the ability to import seeds of this species has also been limited.

Some of our members have done work with *caulescens*, and there are plants around grown from Nakamura seed (brought in before 1993). These plants, from the Hammett gardens are a good example of *C. caulescens* x *C. miniata* crosses. Who knows what the result could be if you crossed these plants with an open-faced Aurea-type yellow?



Aurea

I am indebted to Helen Marriot for her article on *C. caulescens* in Australia, which shows what we've been missing out on. Helen speaks Japanese and has built up relationships with some of the Japanese growers, Nakamura among them. She is also good friends with Laurens Rijke who has achieved spectacular results with his F2 crosses.

Unfortunately, with our government it's a case of two steps forward, one step back. As members are aware MAF have recently increased fees for identification of fungi, insects, bacteria and viruses by more than 300 per cent. To be asked to pay \$370 for the identification of fungus on a seed you have imported, well the seed would have to be made of gold to make it worthwhile testing, as MAF well know.

In most countries there is an awareness that a small, indirect subsidy to growers and breeders that is, the subsidy of the government not charging them the full cost of border protection pays big dividends later on. We have a kiwifruit industry because of the work done by nurserymen and gardeners in the early 1930's. Our farms need less fertiliser and our farm animals have a less intensive feeding set-up because of the clover breeding programs done in the past. The work done with *Pinus radiata* in the early part of last century and onwards, means that we build our houses out of pine instead of native timber, so we still have some native forests left. Would this have happened under the current set-up? I doubt it.

As a practical measure I recommend that you ask those sending you seed to dust it liberally with flowers of sulphur or coat the seed with a paste of fungicide (and write a note to say that is what you have done).



Photos sent in by one of our members, Heather Buckley, of two of her *C. miniata* she enjoyed in 2006. We'd love to receive more of your photos – You can send them to David at d.olsen@pl.net or Alick at clivia@xtra.co.nz



Clivia Products for Sale

* *Clivia Society Year Books. Full of excellent information*
 Year Book 2-4 \$15.00
 Year Book 5-7 \$20.00*

* *'Growing Clivias' by Graham Duncan. Excellent starter Book*
 \$20.00

* *Cultivation of Clivias by The Clivia Society. So much information plus contacts in SA.* \$20.00

* *Clivias by Harold Koopowitz. The 'Bible of Clivias' A must for every Clivia Grower* \$75.00

* *Appreciation of Clivias. 300 beautiful photos of Chinese Clivias with English translation.* \$70.00

* *ChangChung Clivias. More beautiful photos with some translation*
 \$55.00

* *NZ Clivia Club T-Shirts. Black with white trim, s/s with collar. Only a few left.* \$25.00

* *Notecards- 4 Clivia cards with envelopes per pkt. Blank inside. So many uses.* \$4.00

* *Pollen Tubes with lids-pkt of 10. Won't be long and you will be needing these.* \$2.00

Clivia Year Book 8 now on order and due soon. So much information about the last Conference.

Clivia Club Library

All the above books are in our Library and are available for members to borrow for one month.

These must be returned at Borrowers cost. Only members can use this service.

Order any stock with cheques made payable to NZ Clivia Club, 26 Merfield St, Glen Innes.

(Please include 90cents for small books (\$20) and \$3.50 for larger books. All enquires to Diana Holt 09 833-5769 or pick up at our next meeting.

SEED BANK

In the past the club has maintained a seed bank, storing seeds donated by local and overseas donors, and making them available to club members at reasonable prices to generate revenue for the Club.

Your committee has decided to discontinue the seed bank with immediate effect as it is administratively too onerous. (Should any member be willing to take on this arduous task the committee would be happy to reconsider this decision. Please advise the Secretary or Chairman if you wish to volunteer)

However, in line with the objects of the club, namely to promote the cultivation of the genus and the exchange of plants and seed between members, we are encouraging our growers to advertise their seed and plant catalogues via our newsletters. Members too may advertise plants and seed that they have available.

Large adverts and the circulation of catalogues to members, will cost \$40.00 plus any additional stationery and postage costs which may be incurred. However, the newsletters will also carry a 'classified' section where smaller adverts may be placed at a cost of \$10.00 a placement.

Similarly, we are encouraging members to give away, exchange or sell seed and/or plants at club meetings. Where seed or plants are sold a donation to the club of 10% of the proceeds would be appropriate.

What's your method?- Pollination



Finger



Tweezers



Cat-tail



Recording the cross.

NB: No cats were harmed in the taking of this photo.



Gardenii x Miniata



Yellow Miniata

What's Happening

South Africa Talk.

Come along on Monday, 5th March, 7pm at the AHC rooms, 990 Great North Road, Western Springs and share the South African adventure with photos and comments from Ian and other members.

Gardenii Ramble/Show

At Dr Keith Hammett's gardens, 488c Don Buck Road, Massey, on the 26th May.

Interspecifics

Show at Terry Hatch's Joy Plants, 78 Jericho Road, Pukekohe East, on the 25th August.

Spring Clivia Show.

September 29th, at the Auckland Botanic Gardens, Manurewa.

2007 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM NEW ZEALAND CLIVIA CLUB INCORPORATED SUBS FOR 2007 ARE NOW DUE

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Mobile _____

Email _____

Subscription: \$15 per member or couple

Please forward your cheque made payable to 'NZ Clivia Club Inc' to:
The Secretary, NZ Clivia Club,
26 Merfield Street,
Glen Innes, Auckland 1072

Or direct credit by internet banking to:

New Zealand Clivia Club Inc
ASB Bank St Heliers
Account No. 12 3027 0445425 00

For reconciliation purposes please email confirmation to
clivia@xtra.co.nz