



C. nobilis

C. miniata



C. mirabilis

AN INTRODUCTION TO CLIVIA



C. gardenii



C. caulescens



C. robusta



Presentation
adapted from
NACS by
Monclive
Clivias

2025



AGENDA

- i How The Species Clivia Was Named Clivia
- i Describing The Six Clivia Species: Habitats, Leaves, Flowers and Seeds
- i Variation in Clivia Flowers and Leaves
- i How to Grow Clivia – Conditions, Seeds, Offsets and Common Pests & Diseases
- i Clivia-Related Information & Some Resources for Clivia



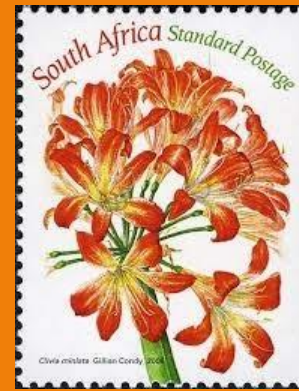
HOW THE SPECIES WAS NAMED ... CLIVIA!

HOW THE SPECIES WAS NAMED CLIVIA

- i William J. Burchell was recorded in September of 1815 as being the first person to make a scientific collection of Clivia (*C. nobilis*) in the wild of the Eastern Cape of South Africa
- i In the early 1820s, James Bowie, a Kew gardener and botanical collector, gathered plants from this area and sent them to England
- i In October of 1828, Kew botanist and horticulturist John Lindley described *C. nobilis* and named it after Lady Florentine Clive, Duchess of Northumberland.



Kly-vee-ah vs. Klih-vee-ah – Both are Used – It's Personal Preference

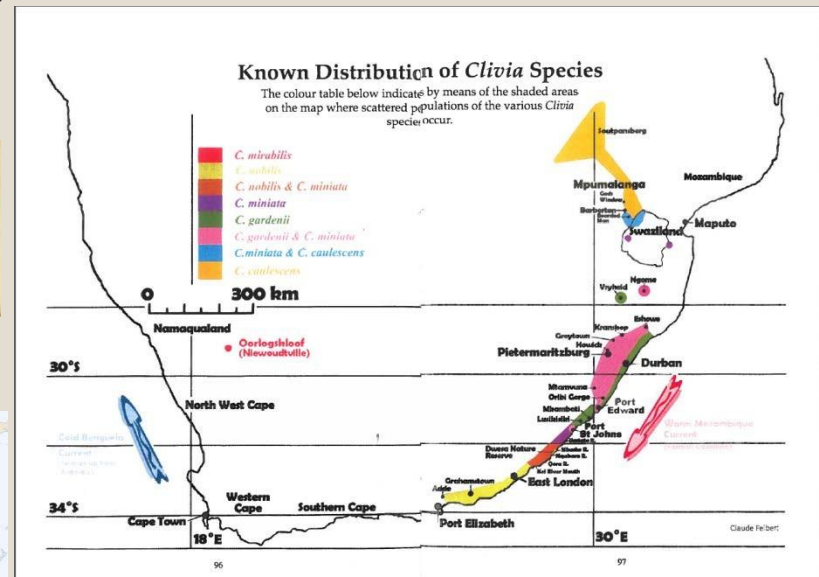


DESCRIBING THE SIX CLIVIA SPECIES: HABITATS, LEAVES, FLOWERS AND SEEDS



DESCRIPTION AND HABITAT

- i Shade growing, evergreen belonging to the Amaryllis family
- i Strap shaped leaves arranged in two ranks with thick tuberous roots (does not form a bulb, however)
- i Flowers typically have six colored tepals (petals and sepals) along with six stamens (and a stigma)
- i Flowers are born in clusters on an umbel on top of a flower stalk called a peduncle
- i Seeds contained in a fleshy pod, usually colored red or yellow, that mature in ~9 months



THE SIX CLIVIA SPECIES

CLIVIA NOBILIS - 1828

- **Habitat:** coastal dunes and under the dense canopy of evergreen forests, on rocky slopes, and on river banks
- **Leaves:** stiff and deep green, with serrated edges and with tips that are typically rounded and have notches
- **Flowers:** appear in the late autumn to early spring

Spring			Summer			Autumn			Winter		
Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb



CLIVIA GARDENII - 1856

- **Habitat:** steeply sloping areas, usually south or southeast facing (southern hemisphere), in evergreen forests under a very tall canopy
- **Leaves:** 10 - 12 in a tuft, bright green and narrowing to a point
- **Flowers:** appear in the late autumn to mid-winter

Spring			Summer			Autumn			Winter		
Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
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CLIVIA MINIATA - 1864

- **Habitat:** under tree cover, often growing on well-draining slopes of the forest floor that is rich with leaf mold
- **Leaves:** strappy, deep green and usually not more than 50 mm wide
- **Flowers:** appear in the late winter to early spring and are presented well above the leaves

Spring			Summer			Autumn			Winter		
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CLIVIA CAULESCENS - 1943

- **Habitat:** evergreen forests of sheltered ravines and damp valleys of mountainous regions, usually on moss covered rocks or tree trunks
- **Leaves:** arching, deep green, soft, smooth and pointed
- **Flowers:** appear mainly in the spring and summer

Spring			Summer			Autumn			Winter		
Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
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CLIVIA MIRABILIS - 2002

- **Habitat:** humus between cracks in sandstone rocks in light evergreen forests of The Northern Cape
- **Leaves:** stiff, upright, and smooth with white median stripe
- **Flowers:** appear in the late spring to early summer

Spring			Summer			Autumn			Winter		
Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb



CLIVIA ROBUSTA - 2004

- **Habitat:** swampy terrain or near water in deep shade in forested areas
- **Leaves:** deep green, smooth and soft with rounded tips
- **Flowers:** appear late autumn to mid-winter

Spring			Summer			Autumn			Winter		
Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb



TYPICAL TIMING OF FLOWERING AND SEED MATURING FOR CLIVIA SPECIES

Season ----->	Spring			Summer			Autumn			Winter		
Timing ----->	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late	Early	Mid	Late
Month ----->	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
C. miniata	Flower								Seed	Seed		Flower
C. caulescens	Flower & Seed	Flower & Seed	Flower & Seed	Flower	Flower	Flower				Seed	Seed	Seed
C. mirabilis	Seed		Flower	Flower								Seed
C. gardenii						Seed	Seed	Seed	Flower	Flower	Flower	
C. Robusta						Seed	Seed	Seed	Flower	Flower	Flower	
C. nobilis	Flower					Seed	Seed	Seed	Flower & Seed	Flower & Seed	Flower	Flower

- Shor test Flowering Season: C. miniata & C. mirabilis
- Longest Flowering Season: C. nobilis & C. caluescens
- Species Flowering: typically anytime except early to mid- autumn
- Species Seed Maturing: typically anytime except early to mid- summer

THE SIX CLIVIA SPECIES

Our Focus Today ...



CLIVIA NOBILIS



CLIVIA GARDENII



CLIVIA MINIATA ORANGE (IN HABITAT)



CLIVIA CAULESCENS



CLIVIA MIRABILIS RED (IN HABITAT)



CLIVIA ROBUSTA

VARIATION IN CLIVIA FLOWERS AND LEAVES



ORANGE, ORANGE- RED, & RED

Typical color
family across
all the species

Orange- red is
the common
color seen in
Clivia miniata

True pumpkin
orange is not
as common as
many believe

True red is not
that common,
either





YELLOW AND CREAM

Can be found
across all the
species.

At one point, a
very rare color

The “it” color
for several
decades due to
its rarity

Good creams
can be
mistaken for
“white”

Pure, true
white does not
exist, yet ...



GREEN THROAT

These are not
rare, but not
common either

You can find
them, but you
still have to
consciously
look for them

They often
appear with
darker colored
flowers, but not
exclusively





“GREEN”

The current “it” flower of the star t of the 21st Century

These are typically yellow and cream flowers with a significant amount of green on the flower that goes beyond just the throat

Other forms, however, do exist



SOLID & NON- PATTERNED PASTEL COLORS

Typically
apricot, peach,
salmon, and
pink shades

Peaches had
their "it"
moment in the
late 1990 s to
early 2000 s

Clear shades in
these colors
are still
relatively hard
to find,
especially
apricot and
pink



PATTERNED & NON- SOLID PASTEL COLORS

Typically large
throats, ghosts,
watercolors,
edged, and
picotee

Watercolors
had their "it"
moment in the
1990s

Patterning and
var ying degree
of color in the
throat are
some of the
typical active
traits for
breeding



UNUSUAL FLOWER FORMS

Typically
spiders,
keeled, and
multi-tepaled

Multi- tepals are
commonly
called “multi-
petals”

Muti- tepals are
also having
their “it”
moment in the
late 2010 s

This is another
trait for which
there is quite a
bit of active
breeding





INTER-SPECIFICS

Crosses between members of the species

The most common is a cross between *Clivia miniata* and another species

Very fertile ground for breeding with much room to cover



LEAF VARIEGA- TION AND LEAF FORM

Variegation
typically
manifests itself
both
horizontally
and vertically

The forms
typically focus
on smaller,
wider leaves

Veining is
another
popular form
that causes
both convex
and concave
areas on leaves



SPECIMEN PLANTS

Typically a larger pot of *Clivia miniata*

Can make a for a spectacular setting both inside and out

Seem to be much more common in The United States than other parts of the world



IN THE LAND- SCAPE

Quite
commonly seen
outside in
Southern
California

Easily
overlooked, if
not in bloom

Clivias grow
where grass
doesn't...

HOW TO GROW CLIVIA – CONDITIONS, SEEDS, OFFSETS AND TAGS

HOW TO GROW CLIVIA – CONDITIONS BLOOMING

- i Typically like being root bound in pots with well draining, lower pH (5.5 – 6.5) soil ... just be careful to not overwater, as they don't like to be waterlogged ... drench them and let the soil dry out between watering. They are gross feeders, so fertilize often!
- i Thrive in dappled shade or indirect, bright light - they can take early morning and late afternoon sun pretty well, but cannot take direct sunlight nor freezing temperatures for prolonged periods of time
- i Generally, when a plant produces it's first 12 or so leaves, it needs a period of rest (below 55F for about 5 weeks) to force a bloom – thereafter, blooms typically come after every 4 leaves pushed, but they still need the period of rest to do so. From setting seed to first flower is typically 4 to 6 years under typical outdoors growing conditions. It can be 2 to 3 years being “pushed” indoors with continuous heat and light.



HOW TO GROW CLIVIA – SEEDS, OFFSETS, AND TAGS

i Starting Seeds



... remove seeds from the pod, taking all the “skin” off each of the shiny marble-sized seeds...



... place seeds in moist, sterile environment to germinate...



... seeds will form first leaves and roots based on energy stored in seed pot ... enjoy your seedlings ...



i Propagation from Offsets & A Word About Tags



... remove from pot, untangle and/or cut roots...

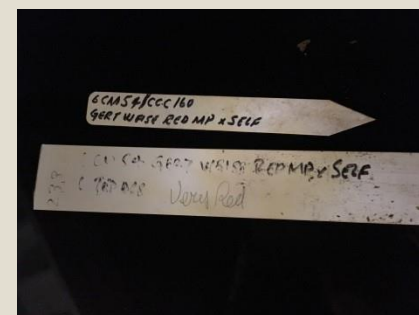


... break apart, if offset has sufficient roots ...



Treat with fungicide, let dry, and plant!

Permanent Marker Fades!



Use lead and grease pencils and keep detailed records.



HOW TO GROW CLIVIA – COMMON PESTS & DISEASES

i Common Pests

- ✎ Amaryllis Borer Moth – larvae (caterpillars) bore down into the leaves and destroy the corum (vegetative base)
- ✎ Mealy Bugs – hide towards the base of the plant and on the leaves and disfigure the leaves
- ✎ Others – scale insects, nematodes, snails, and slugs will also damage leaves and flowers to a variable extent



Mealy Bugs

i Common Diseases

- ✎ Fungal Infections – appear with cooler temperatures and overwatering
- ✎ Rust – appears with high humidity and lack of ventilation
- ✎ Viruses – cause mottled, spotted, and checkered, discolored patterns on leaves

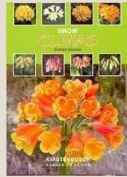
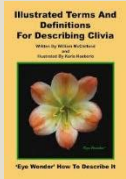


Rust

CLIVIA-RELATED INFORMATION & RESOURCES FOR CLIVIA



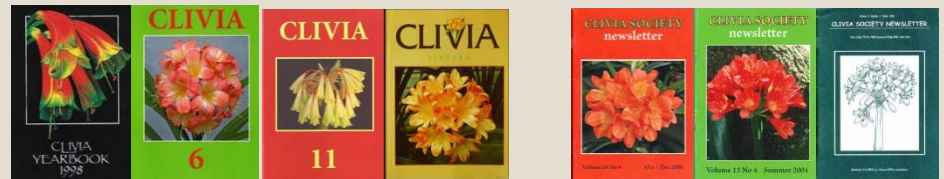
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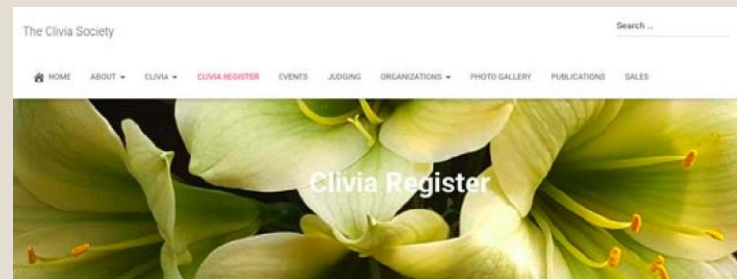
www.cliviaforum.co.za



www.cliviasociety.com



Membership includes the annual "Clivia Yearbook" and Quarterly (or so) "Clivia News"



www.cliviasociety.com/clivia-register/

RESOURCES FOR CLIVIA

- i Most nurseries have at least orange *C. miniata* and, sometimes, yellow *C. miniata* for sale, especially when they boom in August, September & October.
- i Commercial growers usually have orange and yellow *C. miniata*, as well as other colors.



Three photographs from a mid-March visit to Plant Horizons near Watsonville, CA

- i Private individuals will often sell offsets, seeds, and even a plant!



Some thoughts about buying Clivia on eBay:

- Read listings carefully, including seller feedback;
- Typically, reputable sellers will provide good photos and descriptions of items for sale;
- Purchasing plants and seeds from outside the US requires an import permit; and ...
- There's no such thing as a blue clivia ... yet!

APPENDIX

The Six
Species



MISSION OF MONCLIVE CLIVIAS & DISCLAIMER

i MonClive Clivias Mission:

"MonClive Clivias promotes education and develops knowledge regarding the planting, cultivating, plant breeding, growing, showing, care, feeding, watering, nutrition, treatment and disease prevention of all varieties, relatives, and derivatives of the Clivia plant."

i Disclaimer for this Presentation Material:

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Every reasonable attempt has been made to ensure that the information herein presented is accurate. Any mention of a particular website, supplier, or any other sources of Clivia-related materials and/or information, does not necessarily constitute the endorsement of MonClive Clivias.

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Flower					Seed	Seed	Seed	Flower & Seed	Flower & Seed	Flower	Flower

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Flower &Seed	Flower &Seed	Flower &Seed	Flower	Flower	Flower				Seed	Seed	Seed

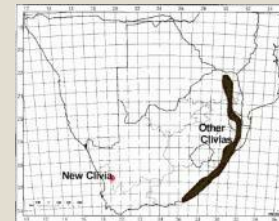


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