

RAISING CLIVIA FROM SEED

In the Southern Hemisphere Clivia miniata seed starts to ripen from around August or even earlier.

Clivia seed is best sown as fresh as possible although it can be stored in a dry container in a refrigerator for up to a year. Most seed is available between August and January to ensure freshness.

Plant the seed on the surface of a 50-50 combination of high quality free draining potting mix and coarse river sand. Press down but not cover, and place in a shady but warm place. In cold climates a heating mat is recommended. Keep seeds moist but do not over water.

If the shoot (radicle) starts to come out at the top of the seed turn it around to face downwards, although a lot of the time this is not necessary as it will turn downwards itself.

Seedlings will be ready to pot on in about one year.

Transplant in spring into small pots. It is important not to overpot Clivia. They do not like large volumes of cold soil.

From seed sowing to flowering takes an average of four years. The plant should be in a four litre pot by the time it reaches flowering grade. The number of leaves then would be at least eight or 10.

These notes have been provided by the Toowoomba Clivia Society Inc., a garden club whose interest is growing of Clivias. Members meet bi-monthly at members' homes. Any information required about meetings or a membership form contact secretary Brian Mahoney on 07 46364371.

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From seed sowing to flowering takes an average of three to four years. The plant should be in a four litre pot by the time it reaches flowering grade. The number of leaves then would be at least eight or 10.

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