

25 February 2018

AGM



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Chairman report for 2017

Firstly, I must wish you all a Happy New Year and lots of flowers for 2018.

Our membership has gone down from 97 to 89, due to members moving away and our enemy; old age. We do not seem to attract any younger members and this is concerning to say the least. Financial constraints and smaller dwellings and the age of computers and technology has led to the interest in gardening and its wonders waning. The drought we are experiencing is not helping at all, discouraging people from growing plants.

We decided to keep membership fees at

R190 for 2018. Funds we generated during our Spring show in 2017 was sufficient to grow our bank account balance and the move from ABSA to Nedbank also brought financial interest which is of great help.

So far it seems that we might have our Spring show at Baywest Mall this year as the meeting with their management was positive. Further meetings are still needed to iron out smaller details. This may be the shift that we need to reach a bigger public and attract more members.

We had lots of interesting topics discussed at

our open meetings in 2017 and we will endeavor to improve on them for 2018. If you have any ideas for talks please come and discuss it with us. We would like to hear what you would want to hear at meetings.

We have an open invitation to members to come and join the committee and make themselves available to serve the club in any way possible.

See you all at the AGM on the 24 February 2018 at Sherwood Garden Centre at 14:00.

EPCC Year-end function 2017

We had our year end function on the 25th November 2017 at Sherwood Garden Centre at 14:00.

We did not have the normal handing out of engraved trophies as most of the members who won them last year was from

out of town and could not attend.

I did give a talk on my experience on judging at Cape Town and showed the members what we might do with our planned show at Baywest Mall in 2018. The planned

talk of Tinus to Joburg and Pretoria and the gardens he visited was left over for our AGM in February. The atmosphere was relaxed and we all enjoyed the eats and talked about our favorite plants Clivia.

Special points of interest:

- The club has received a letter stating that we were successful in our application for Financial Assistance from NMBM, and only waiting for payment to be made.
- The dates for our Spring show will be on the 28 to 30 September and 28 July for our Mini Show.

Eastern Province Clivia Club AGM 24th February 2018



Anne-Marie De Wet Steyn
Clivia miniata (Peach with
green throat)



Carrie Kruger (Ghost)

This is a very important time in any Club's calendar as it is here that you determine the future of your club. This is where you choose the person or persons that will be able to lead you and make decisions on behalf of you for the next 12 months.

If you want to join the committee as an additional member or feel that you might be able to contribute in any way,

please inform any of the current committee members. This will ensure that your nomination is secure.

Please just take note that at this meeting only paid up members for 2018 will be eligible to stand for office or cast a vote.

This is also a good time to inform your committee on issues that you

would like to be addressed, or included in the new year program.

We as a committee do this to promote the club and its interests and not for any personal gain.

Please come to all the planned meetings as we need your support.

Tinus Sonnekus will also give an interesting talk on his visit to Pretoria and Joburg and the clivia gardens he saw.



Fertilizers, Clivia and how they work

"Nothing just happens or just gets done, someone has to make it happen or do it"

I am always looking for interesting facts and tips on growing plants and how they interact. Lately I have been reading a series of interesting articles about fertilizers that I would love to share with you in the newsletters and might

even arrange a talk on the subject in the future.

Some of the stuff is so technical that even I do not understand some of it. Luckily most of the information can be easily explained and some of you might even find it

interesting or useful to make informed decisions when buying fertilizers in the future or making your own mixtures. I will try and find some space to include short explanations on the topic in future issues or might create a separate page.

EPCC events Calendar for 2018

24 February	Open Meeting (Club AGM)	<u>Committee meetings</u>
12 May	Clivia Society AGM	12 March, 16 April, 14 May
19 May	Open Meeting	11 June, 16 July, 13 August
28 July	Mini Interspecific show and meeting	10 September, 8 October
28-30 September	Spring Show	12 November
24 November	Open meeting (closing of the year)	

Renewal of membership for 2018

This is a reminder to all members to please pay their 2018 membership fees. Thank you to those members that have already done so. If you are unsure whether you have paid contact Brenda at 084 658 5857 for confirmation.

Fees for 2018 is **R190** for the main member. (Wife and kids join for free)

Please note that only one year-book and 3 newsletters will be posted to the main member of the club.

Banking Details

EP Clivia Club

Nedbank

Branch Code, 19876500

Savings account or Club Account

Account number: 2010751310

Reference: Your full name please!

Please remember to let us know if any of your details change.

If you pay your membership fees after October month in 2018 your late membership fees will be R 220.



Louis de Swardt (Broad tepal yellow)



Willie Le Roux (Apple blossom like)

Committee contact details

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This time of the year is also Amaryllis worm time. So please take precautions and inspect plants regularly and keep your spray ready. The worms got to some of my plants under a tree not regularly inspected. Eggs can be found on the underside of the leaves. If they hatch you will find clear tracks visible branching out from a single point. Photo included for easy identification of the adult worm. If you are not squeamish you can squash them or collect them in a tin for disposal.

Amaryllis Worm or Lily Borer



Although these terms are sometimes used interchangeably, the terms 'slow-release fertiliser' (SRF) and 'controlled-release fertiliser' (CRF) strictly do *not* mean the same thing – even though both do release plant nutrients at a slower rate than when highly-soluble conventional or 'straight' fertilisers are used. For those who are unclear of these differences, we hope that the following simplified explanation of these distinctions will be both interesting and informative and explain the different manner in which each of these two classes of fertiliser re-releases plant nutrients.

Controlled-release fertilisers (CRFs) differ fundamentally from (SRFs) in both technology and mode of nutrient release. Soluble essential plant nutrients, either individually or in various homogeneous blends (depending on the application) are encapsulated in an organic resin or polymer coating to form prills. This coating is the secret of delayed release of nutrients in a CRF. The physical processes by which this is achieved is explained in simplified terms below. It should be emphasised that the term 'controlled' implies a much greater degree of control in the rate, pattern and duration of nutrient release than can be achieved using SRFs for example, Osmocote, Nutricote, and Multicote.

Slow-release fertilisers (SRFs), unlike controlled-release fertilisers, are not encapsulated in coated prills. The most commonly used slow-release fertilisers are those which supply nitrogen (N) at a slower rate than if a readily-soluble source of nitrogen were applied (e.g. ammonium sulphate, ammonium nitrate or urea). In one of the methods to achieve this, fertiliser manufacturers synthesise what is known as long-chain molecules by chemically combining a nitrogen-source molecule with an aldehyde for example, urea formaldehyde or methyl urea. The delayed release of nitrogen is achieved by microbial action in the growing medium slowly breaking down the long-chain molecules and eventually converting the resulting ammonium nitrogen to nitrate (the form of nitrogen which plant roots can take up).

Benefits of using SRFs and CRFs

The major benefits from using slow- or controlled-release fertilisers over readily-soluble 'straight' fertilisers include:

- Slower release rates mean longer-term feeding and minimal nutrient wastage through leaching.
- A high degree of control over release rates, duration and pattern (CRFs only), means better synchronisation of nutrient release with demand.
- Improved plant growth and health (plants get what they need as they need it).
- Reduced frequency of application, with associated lower labour costs.
- Environmental benefits (minimal nutrient in leachate, reducing freshwater/marine contamination).
- Minimisation of concentrated nutrient build up a risk for high salinity-related root and leaf burn.

There is now a developing trend to transfer these benefits, long-proven for container-grown stock, to field crop production by changing to slower-release fertilisers especially where environmental concerns are an issue.