



This Amaryllis relative is an easy companion plant to your Orchid collection. It is a low light plant; in a greenhouse it can be grown under the benches.

Clivia have a reputation for being able to grow in any type of soil (incl. broken down orchid mix). They certainly can, but they perform far better in a fairly rich mix. I use:

- 3 pts ProMix
- 1 pt composted cow manure
- 1 pt sand

A dash of 110 Day NutriCote applied in April, and liquid fertilizer every 2 weeks (Peters 20:20:20, 300 ppm from March to October, 200 ppm in November, none Dec-Feb).

Many like to grow their Clivia in clay pots. In my greenhouse the plants dry out too quickly in clay pots, so I am using exclusively plastic pots now.

Growing from Seed:

- Pollinated flowers produce a 'berry', which can contain 1-10 seeds (3-4 = norm). Berries take one year to mature; once they change color and the flesh turns soft, they can be harvested. Rub off the flesh, and carefully peel off the inner membrane. Seeds should be sown quickly.
- I start seeds in regular 3" pots, with 6-8 seeds/pot. **Do not use seed trays**; the initial root can run 6-8" sideways. That root is brittle and easily broken, so you can't fit it into a normal size starter pot).
- After 6-8 months, seedlings go into individual 2.1/2, square starter pots.
- When roots threaten to bust the starter pot (usually after 8-10 months), I transfer the seedlings into Quart pots (4.1/2" round). Most plants will bloom in this pot size, once they reach blooming size (BS ≈ 13+ leaves).

Watering:

- I keep seedlings watered & fertilized year round, till they reach BS.
- BS plants are moved to the **coolest possible location**** in mid November, and **watering is stopped**, until the inflorescence is visible above foliage. The plant can now be moved into normal light/temperature range, and watering resumed.
- ** = *in an unused bedroom, near a basement window, in a non-freezing garage, etc.; temperature in 40-65°F (5-18°C) range.*
- If a plant shows no inflorescence by late April, I resume watering/feeding.

After 1 year in my mix & fertilizer program.

