

THE CHS's FIRST VIRTUAL PLANT 'TABLE'

7 December 2020





Athanasia trifurcata (Klaaslouwbos, Kouterbos) – Asteraceae family

From Jean Fillis' Kirstenhof garden and this is what she has to say:

Found wild in the Fynbos area from Clanwilliam to our area.

It has grey-green leaves, 3-toothed at the ends, has 50 - 100 florets on each flower head, and bees love it.

The roots exude a chemical that inhibits the growth of *Ericas*, *Proteas* and *Buchus* but the *Lobostemon*, *Pelargoniums*, *Nemesias* and *Ochna natalensis* around mine are fine.

Farmers do not like it as it is bitter and not palatable to livestock; can become a weed (though it does not drop seed in my garden) and clogs up the plough (or kouter like the plant's common name).



Albuca nelsonii

Right and top right:

Started to flower last week, but not quite open.

Below right:

Taken from the Random Harvest Nursery website

In the garden of

Jane Yeats and Allan Lutge in Redhill











Albuca nelsonii

fasciated flower stems





Flower heads of *Aeonium* species

From the garden of

Jenny and Errol Scarr in Pinelands





Salvia canariensis var candidisima (from the Canary Islands) and growing in the Lakeside garden of Cherry Mann

Always attractive, even without flowers, because of its silvery-white arrow-shaped felted leaves. It bears magenta-purple flowers in large purple calyces at the end of long branches in late spring. The purple bracts persist for a long time into summer.



When the flowers are cut for the vase, the arrangement still looks good after the flowers have fallen as the colourful bracts remain.

It is a full sun, water-wise plant growing to about 2m, appealing to both bees and butterflies.

I cut mine back hard in autumn otherwise it could get lanky and unruly.

Several babies popped up around the plant in spring.





