

WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY PLANT SHOW AND TELL

7 March 2022

Stapelia verrucosa is a quite fast-growing clump-forming succulent from E. Cape, usually flowering in late summer although it has odd flowers at other times. Not to be confused with *Stapelia variegata*.





***Bauhinia tomentosa* with its yellow bell shaped flowers with dark maroon centres can reach to about 2-3m and makes a delightful shrub or small tree.**



***Yucca* – not sure which species (could be elephantipes because of its swollen "foot"). Stems can grow to about 150cms or more.**

Wilma loves the clusters of balloon-like flowers with which the plant becomes festooned at about this time of the year.





Wilma says:

“*Amaryllis belladonna* (March lily) just coming into bloom. The buds grow rapidly (seems like 5 cms a day!) and grow out of dry barren ground like tongues of fire.

Although they flower closer to Easter, I always think of them at Pentecost when the spirit descended on the Christian believers.”



***Orostachys iwarenge* (Chinese dunce's cap) comes from the China/Mongolia/Japan region.**

Wilma says: "I am fascinated by its growth form as it 'scatters' new plantlets around itself. I got a pot of 6 very small plants in about November. I separated them into single pots and they have all grown quite fast.

One of my plants is in bud and I can't wait to see the flower."





Isabella has this to tell us:

“This is *Karomia speciosa* – formerly known as *Holmskioldia speciosa*. Common names "Parasol Flower" and "Southern Chinese Hats". Family Lamiaceae.

It's a large shrub (several metres at maturity) or small tree from the north-eastern parts of SA and further into Africa. The actual flower is the purple part, backed by a pink calyx that lasts long after the flower falls off, becoming pale pink or mauve or whitish.

There are related *Karomia* species elsewhere in Africa, Madagascar and even Vietnam. The flowers show a resemblance to those of *Clerodendrum ugandense* (*Rothea myrica*), which also belongs to the Lamiaceae.

Although it comes from the summer rainfall areas, it seems to be handling Cape Town's Mediterranean climate quite well. This one was obtained (with difficulty) from Random Harvest Nursery in Gauteng. I will only be able to take cuttings in a couple of years – apparently you need second-year growth.”





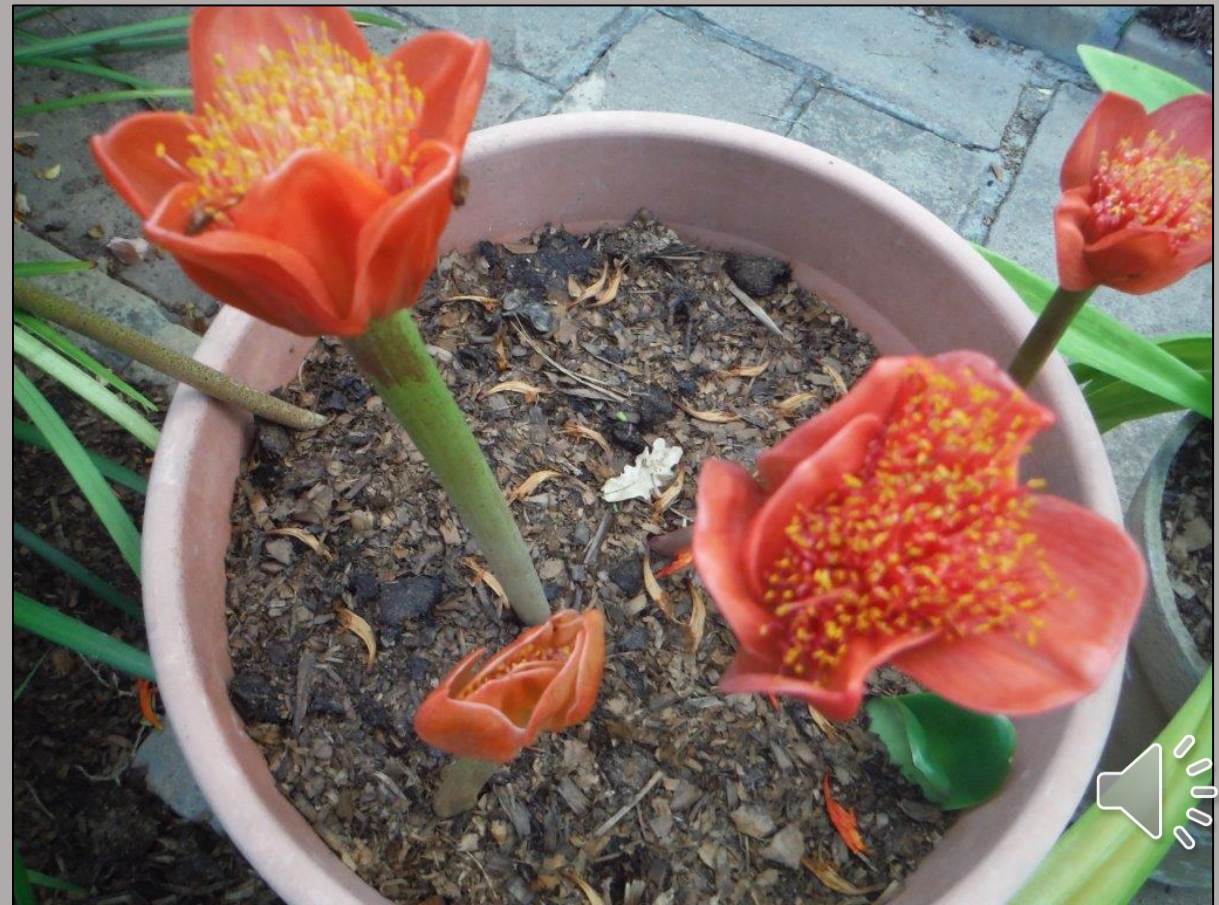
Andrea's *Haemanthus coccineus* (Red Paintbrush)

Grown from seed collected in Betty's Bay and now flowering for a 2nd year.

Mid-green strap-shaped leaves will appear when flowers die down.

Fruit is ovoid, fleshy and white to pink.

Grows easily from seed.



Jenny's newly acquired
Pelargonium ionidiflorum



Streptocarpus

