



SPRING NEWSLETTER

Volume 113 Issue 1 September 2014

Jo-da Bonsai Distributors

For full details of stock, prices of bonsai in pots or bags
and all types of accessories

Phone No 011 734 2765 Cell: 083 742 2238

email: joda@xsinet.co.za website: www.jodabonsai.co.za

GPS/Sat Nav: -26.348767 Lat. 28.42704045 Long.

**CREATIVE
PRICELESS
STUNNING**

BONSAI WORKSHOP/DEMO

**For the start of the season the first
workshop/demo will be**

**“Creating your own Bonsai” 9.00 for 9.30 – 13.00
at Brandmuller’s Garden Pavilion in Vereeniging
Cost R50/person. Advance booking required**

**14.00 – onwards, select a plant, pot and you will be
assisted in creating your own bonsai.
Paying only for the plant and pot.**

Bookings: call 016 428-3351 or John 083 742 2238

WHAT’S NEW AT JO-DA BONSAI DISTRIBUTORS:

Bonsai Pots Galore:



A comprehensive range, Imported and local ceramic glazed and unglazed pots all colours, even very large fiber glass ones plus plastic.

Sizes: from 5 cm to 120cm

Shapes: rectangle, oval, round, square, hexagon, lotus, cascade, semi-cascade, forest planters, etc.

Prices: from R35 to R1300

Bonsai Tools:

Japanese and Chinese, professional and beginners quality.

Sizes: Small, medium and large.

Prices: from R45 to R650 each

Also combination sets of your choice in roll-up tool case.

Accessories: Bending Jacks, stainless Steel Sieves. Scoops Root Picks, Saws, Kiyonale & Cut Paste, Spray Bottles for misting. etc.etc Potential Bonsai in black bags: very large range.

Conifers (Evergreens) Japanese Procumbens nana, Junipers etc. Japanese Hinoki Cypress.

Azaleas: Kurume, Satsuki and Indigo.

Olives, Chinese Elms, Maples, Dwarf Pomegranates, Boulevard, Boxwood, Kei Apple, Yellowwood etc. (Subject to prior sale).

Sizes: small cups, 4L bags to 20L cut back bags.

Prices: From R25/cup to R400/bag.

New stock arriving during the next two months.

Please inquire or watch this space.

Beautiful Benvie Garden (The secret Forest).



On advice from one of our customers, we had the privilege to visit one of South Africa’s oldest unique and most beautiful gardens or rather estates we would say.

It is situated in the South-East facing slopes of the Karkloof hills in Kwazulu-Natal north east of Howick. The garden was designed and established by one John Geekie who bought the 30 hectare property in eightieth hundreds a cabinet-maker from Scotland. He created an arboretum, having plants, seedlings and seeds imported from all parts of the world to create a wonderful array of trees and shrubs as could be found anywhere. Trees a century and more old of massive stature, weird and mind-testing shapes with foliage jostle for position alongside many indigenous species, creating a potpourri to whet the appetite of almost any botany fanatic. Flowering shrubs abound, with colours that stun the senses, and everywhere there are swathes of manicured lawns to provide vantage points for viewing the splendour with a good variety of aquatic plants to create a counterpoint to the terrestrial giants, the visitor is nearly overpowered by the combination. The garden has cedars from Japan, Gingko bilobas and Dawn Redwoods from China and Grass Trees from Australia. Azaleas, Camellias and Rhododendrons, old azalea varieties, impossible to count. Benvie is probably the largest exotic garden in the southern hemisphere, and certainly the largest in South Africa.

Benvie is also a recognised birding site and is home to 170 varieties, including the rare Orange Ground-Thrush.

NOTE:

**We will be closed from the 24th September to 2nd October
Attending the SABA Mini Bonsai Convention in George.**

WHAT TO DO IN SPRING, AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

Well first! August most times the hot and windy month, all one seem to do is water and water. Yes also don't forget to defoliate all your deciduous bonsai should they still have last seasons leaves, especially the Acacias. Otherwise they will hinder new leaf growth or in November or so last seasons leaves will drop off leaving no leaves during mid season until new ones grow. This is the month to start re-potting and potting. The evergreens a bit later once the lighter green new growth appears. Some enthusiasts recommend re-potting and potting earlier in July. I always go from signs by nature when new buds swell and before more than 25% of the leaves unfurl. A sign that the dormant branches are receiving sap pushing up from the winter root growth. Plants respond to the increase in temperature, measure longer days and hopefully you give them more water. Anyway, use a proven re-potting and potting technique, even then you might lose a few , you only learn through experience. Good Luck,

What is the Difference between Azaleas and Rhododendrons?

All Azaleas are Rhododendrons but not all Rhododendrons are Azaleas. Azaleas have been reclassified and are now in the genus Rhododendron. There are no clear cut lines for distinguishing Azaleas from Rhododendrons .True Rhododendron flowers have 10 or more stamens, 2 per lobe. Azaleas usually have 5 stamens 1 per lobe with 5 lobes in a flower. Many Azaleas are deciduous. True Rhododendrons are usually evergreen. Azaleas have tubular funnel or funnel shaped flowers. Rhododendrons flowers tend to be bell-shaped. Azaleas tend to have oppressed hairs which is hair parallel to the surface of the leaf. Easily seen in "evergreen" azaleas. True Rhododendrons instead of hair are often scaly or have small dots on the under side of the leaf. The following evergreen varieties are generally used for bonsai: Kurume or Dwarf Azalea Satsuki & Satsuk Chinzan and Dwalf Indica. Of interest, I inherited an Azalea which as a bonsai only had large flower buds falling off before opening. Per chance was advised that it was an Azalea "mollis" one of the deciduous Azaleas.

Azalea mollis - Deciduous Rhododendron are a wide ranging group of deciduous azaleas originating from Belgian and Dutch sources. They are universally known amongst gardeners as Azaleas rather than the botanically correct Rhododendrons.

Deciduous Azaleas are at their best in full sun. This allows the wood to ripen for producing the best flowering display for the following spring season, other than this they are grown and cared for the same as other Azalea bonsai.

**Caring for Bonsai, demands attention like a baby except it's left at home!!
Don't forget to water!!**

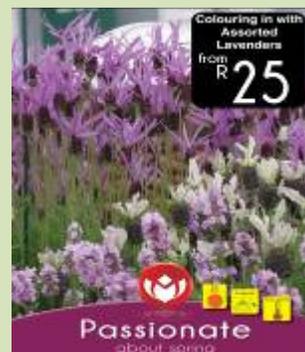
**PLEASE NOTE BUSINESS HOURS 9H00 TO 16H00
OPEN SATURDAY,SUNDAY,TUESDAY &WEDNESDAY
OTHER DAYS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!**



BRANDMULLER'S
Garden Pavilion

Passionate about Gardening

Spring is here and with it so much colour to choose from to brighten up your garden after the harsh winter we've experienced. For hot sunny spots, Vygies, Cape Daisies, Gazanias, Felicias, Petunias, Geraniums and Diascias are good choices. The Azaleas are in bloom now and they do well in semi-shady spots or in tubs. We also have a few different colours of the 'kurume' types that are suited for bonsai. Combine them with Foxgloves & Bergenia for a lovely shade garden. We have so many plants on special at the moment so be sure not to miss out. Loads more in store!



Open 7 days a week 09:00 – 17:00

016 428-3351

**5 Dave Nourse Street, Unitas Park, Vereeniging
Wheelchair friendly
Spoons tea garden open Tuesdays - Sundays**