



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Volume 116 Issue 1 1st December 2014

**CREATIVE
PRICELESS
STUNNING**

Jo-da Bonsai Distributors

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

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December Business Days and Times:

As normal, open Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9h00 to 16h00, including the Public Holiday 16th December, but closed from the 25th December to the 2nd January.

WHAT'S NEW AT

JO-DA BONSAI DISTRIBUTORS

DUNNOTTAR.

Having planned to be ready for this mid-season, we have just about every conceivable bonsai product in stock for you.

The less expensive Chinese range of Black Finish and Pro-Tools are running low. However, our other ranges of tools are well stocked.

Availability List – Potential Bonsai

The list remains as October's Newsletter. For certain species of plants the stock has reduced.

Junperus procumbens nana: We hold a large stock of small to medium size plants of this very sought after and hard to come by species.

BONSAI WORKSHOP:

Watch this space.

Deliveries and Collections:

We specialize in mail orders and recommend:
XPRESS ONLINE COURIERS

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**Caring for Bonsai, demands
attention like a baby
except it's left at home!!**

**Don't forget to
water**

WHAT TO DO DURING DECEMBER.

Can you believe it? It is the end of November, and its now only that most of the country has had rain.

Going on holiday? What to do with the bonsai!!

You have several options. The best is, one week before you leave, arrange with someone to water. Train them, monitoring them watering of your bonsai as you do every day (every day!!). Only then once they have watered that week to your satisfaction can you be assured of returning home to live bonsai. Other options; but try them out or have everything available and ready a week before you go on holiday.

- Stand them in a shallow container, the pots half submerged in water (your bath, kitchen zinc or plastic tray/container etc.)
- As a siphon, stand a tall container next to your bonsai. With a soft cotton cord (absorbent cord) submerged to the bottom of the container, full of water. The other end of the cord wound around the top of the soil of the bonsai.
- Use a medical drip, without the needle and medical solution, but with the flow restrained/adjusted.
- Or you can buy an automatic bonsai/plant watering device from us.
- There are many other options, but too long to explain here, so give me a call and I will give you details.



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PESTICIDES.

One does not find much written on their use, in general, especially for bonsai. Possible because there are so many brands, types, uses and safety requirements. Also, each one has its own very comprehensive instruction attached to or in its container, which please follow to the letter.

Firstly: let's define the main pesticide types and uses.

Herbicides: - Weed killer.

Fungicides: - Control of diseases related to humid (wet) and temperature conditions. (fungi, mildew, rust, etc.).

Insecticides: - Control the pests and diseases that attack and damage plants and those that are found in the home, such as flies, cockroaches, moths, ants etc. On our plants: aphids, mealy bug, scales, thrips, red spider, white fly; to name but a very few.

Secondly: some of the main points.

- Identify the pest or disease.
- Use the applicable insecticide
- Or take your affected bonsai, or branch to a nursery to identify the problem.
- Read the safety, method application and rate of application.
- Mix and apply according to the dilution and rate specified. Note: Bonsai being miniature plants do not apply too strongly.
- Besides spraying on top of the plant, it's most important to spray under the leaves and inside the plant.
- Only use pesticide when necessary, take care of the environment.

Some tips: If you see little black ants on your bonsai, you either have pests on them or they are bringing their eggs to your bonsai. So treat for the insects as well as for the ants. Try using a plain dish-washing liquid diluted in water (one desert spoon/ one liter). Spraying your bonsai and the soil sparingly. Or if possible wrap plastic around the pot to hold the soil in. Turn the bonsai upside down and swirl it in the dishwashing solution contained in a bucket. This does not always work to kill all pests, so you might have to use an insecticide.

- For Red Spider Mite, repeat as directed on the container
- For Whitefly, spray at night to kill the adults, repeating as directed.
- Do not only treat your affected bonsai, but the plants surrounding you bonsai as that could be the source of infestation.

GOOD LUCK