



MARCH NEWSLETTER

CREATIVE
PRICELESS
STUNNING

Volume 108 Issue 1 1st March 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 .7422238 email joda@xsinet.co.za website:www.jodabonsai.co.za

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Bonsai Nursery and shop in Dunnottar will be closed on the 8th March and between Monday the 7th and Saturday the 12th April. The public holiday 21st March we will be open.

Bonsai Workshops – Vereeniging

Saturday 8th March 2014

Topic: Session(3) Refining and ongoing care and crit of your bonsai created during session (2). Followed in the afternoon with a Bonsai Beginners Workshop and or for those who wish to create another bonsai or more.

Beginners Bonsai Workshop: You will be given a potential bonsai in a nursery bag, a bonsai ceramic pot with consumables necessary to create and pot your bonsai to take home, plus literature.

Creating another Bonsai: Assistance and free advice will be given,

Times and costs.

Session (3), 9h00 to 12h00 (15 minute break) Cost R50/p.

After lunch 13h00 Bonsai Beginners Workshop Cost R200/p.

Creating another bonsai or more. Cost R50/p plus paying for the pot, bonsai and consumables chosen and used.

Refreshments and handouts included, refreshments served mid morning and mid afternoon as applicable.

Saturday 12th April 2014

Styling principals in general and creating a forest.

Time and Costs: 9h00 – 12h00 R100.

Booking is essential.

Saturday 10th May 2014. (Provisional)

Design ideas for building bonsai display stands and a bonsai ene (Enclosure).

At the same time buy a bonsai or accessory for Sunday the 11th - Mothers Day.

Requests: Should you have any proposals for bonsai topic as opposed to of the above or for the future that you would like to attend – please advise.

Bookings can be made at Brandmullers Garden Pavilion 016 428 3351 or with John & Freda 083 742 2238.

What's New.

Bonsai Brushes: set of three R45 or individually sold R20, stainless steel, brass and nylon, for cleaning deadwood (Jins & Sharis), moss off butteries roots, trunks, pots etc.

Bonsai Tools: A new "Deluxe" range now imported with polished cutting heads and coloured nylon handle grips, competitively priced. Individually sold or in a tool case set.

Bonsai turntables: used for styling and or display 40cm dia. Types: flat, with rubber feet or pedestal @ R145, R165 and R275 each.

Chinese figurine: pre-packed sets of 3 to 4 items priced from R45 to R55.

Moss for your bonsai: now sold in punnets @ R45 each.

Bonsai Books: Master Bonsai by Rudi Adam. also available in Afrikaans, Bonsai, Bemeester die kuns @ R350. See review on our website.

Growing Bonsai in South Africa by D. Hall & J. Haw @ R195.

Many other speciality bonsai books are also stocked.

What to do during March.

Again we have had rain, rain and more rain over most parts of South Africa. When it stops hopefully it should return to those hot March days we know so well, so watch out for scorching as the bonsai will now be tender with new soft light green leaves and shoots. The nutrients would have also been leached out by the rain requiring replenishment.

With realization that autumn is on its way, only three months or so to go to winter we need to harden our bonsai up. This is done by using a lower nitrogen content fertilizer. It would be disastrous to allow toxic nitrogen build up in the soil, especially for those trees approaching dormancy. Nitrogen a growth stimulant not required at this time; new growth is to be trimmed off, as it will only die back in winter. Start to use a high potassium content fertilizer for strengthen next year's flowering and fruiting buds.

Alternating use high phosphate fertilizer for winter root hardening and growth.

Note: This year's bud ends are next year's flowers in most tree species, so do not cut all of them off.

As the bonsai harden up, soil dries out remove old leaves keeping the pot surfaces free from dead leaves and other debris which may harbour pests and fungi following this damp period. Remove algae should it be on the moss or under the pots.

I have noticed that the black sugar ants are emerging and going onto the branches and under the leaves. This is a indication of the presents of aphids, mealy bug, scale etc, which secrete mill dew sugar which the ants milk and take to there nests. Eliminating these pests does not always stop the ants. One way is to use a "Miraculous insecticide chalktm".

This is done by drawing parallel lines around the pot rim, or just under and around the stand the pot stands on. Unfortunately the chalk can be washed away, especially if overhead watering is used. This chalk is available from garden centres and hardware stores. Give us a call for details.

It is not to late to defoliate your. Acacias, but for other bonsai species it is. Defoliating means cutting off all the leaves, there after the next flush of leaves will be smaller, brighter green and more beautiful. Some bonsai species do not tolerate or get smaller leaves after defoliating.

For details of growing more branches on your Acacias and improving branch ramification, following defoliation, the so called "The bird's nest technique" can be used. Give us a call on 083 742 2238.

Caring for Bonsai demands, is as a baby except it's left at home!!

Don't forget to water!!

PLEASE NOTE SUMMER BUSINESS HOURS 9H00 TO 16H00
OPEN SATURDAY, SUNDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY.
CLOSED EVERY SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH