



# *Vet Brief*

May 2018

Next meeting Sunday 13 May 2018  
Plant Propagation

**Save The Date:**

**May Meeting  
13 May 2018  
Vegetative  
Propagation**

**June Meeting  
10 June 2018  
Photography**

**22–24 Sept. 2018  
Vetplantfees  
2018**

## **Message from the Chair**

Those of us who went on the Veld Walk in April were pleasantly surprised at the plants that were in flower. We have had just enough rain to make the plants of the veld believe that they are going to survive. Those that have made it this far anyway. I can say that every *Haworthia truncata* was in flower. A real treat.

A large part of our May meeting will concern Vetplantfees 2018. I am very happy with our progress to date. We have top vendors and top artists from all around South Africa coming to participate. Please try to make the meeting and get the latest news. We have the new brochures for you to take and give to merchants around the area to help promote the Fees.

Our meeting this month will be about propagation of succulent plants, which we will continue to do on an annual basis. Learn how and when to take cuttings, how to prepare them and how to plant them. We will also look at two aloes that were cut up last year at this meeting and how they have progressed. We hope to have at least one gasteria leaf that was cut last year and is making babies.

See you at the meeting.

Buck

**May Meeting:**

**Plant Propagation, vegetative. Meet  
at 2:00 PM at Jako Voges Building.**

## **Johannesburg Succulent Society Show & Sale 14 April 2018**



### **Leadership Team**

**Chairman – Buck Hemenway 076-298-7337**

**Treasurer – Yvonne Hemenway**

**Vice Chairman – Allan Beech**

**Director – Irma Welman**

**Secretary – Jako Voges**

## Plant of the Month: *Aloe suprafoliata*

*Aloe suprafoliata* (Pole-Evans 1916) (Book Aloe, Mustache Aloe, Boekaalwyn, )

*Aloe suprafoliata* is a stemless or short-stemmed Aloe, unique in that its growth habit changes as it ages. For a long period of time during this plants juvenile phase the leaves of the plant are distichous or stacked in two rows that parallel each other but as the plant matures (during the first year of flowering) the leaves radiate out and develop into in the typical rosettes. The tapering succulent leaves are up to 40 cm long, armed with small teeth along the edges. In less intense sunlight the leaves are blue-green, but in bright conditions they become a milky blue-gray color. In the dry winter conditions prevailing in its native habitat, it is often tinted reddish-brown on the



outside of the rosette. The inflorescence of is not branched, but plants can produce up to 6 or more stalks from one rosette, rising up to 1 meter. Even before the flowers open they are attractive, with cylindrical pinkish-red buds tipped in slate gray or purplish gray. The buds are upward-pointing, but as the flowers mature they pivot downward, then pointing back up again as they pass maturity, so that the seed pods are held erectly. The flowers are slender and quite long, up to 2 inches (5 cm).

*Aloe suprafoliata* Occurs in Northeastern South Africa (KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga to the Mozambique border) and Swaziland growing in shallow soils in rocky areas in montane grassland, or in rock crevices on steep cliffs.

It is easy to care for and grows well in the Klein Karoo in gardens. It will want a small helping of additional water in our climate.



**This is this plan's first flowering season**

## Botanical Term of the Month;

Distichous (dis tik us) Botanical term referencing a plant's leaf growth habit. In one plane, opposite growth. Rosette describes a rotating leaf pattern around the central stem

### Jakkalskop on 8 April



**Haworthia truncata**



**Looking for Gems**



**Sarcocaulon flower**

### Plants flowering right now



**Aloe ferox**



**Aloe hybrid**



**Gasteria/Aloe hybrid**



**Aloe dichotoma (Quiver Tree)**



**Kleinia**



**Kalanchoe**