

# ORTHOLOPHA

## The Newsletter of the Aloe, Cactus and Succulent Society of Zimbabwe



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Issue 14-09 September 2014

### Impending rains?

These are the months of heat and dust and short tempers as we build up to the rainy season. Spare a thought for those who do not have plentiful supplies of water and be sparing in the way you tend your gardens. At ACSSZ we firmly believe that our gardening habits should be in tune with the hot African environment that we live in. Don't try and keep trees that don't fit, alive and green when in nature most of our vegetation dries down to deciduous bare skeletons. We are lucky however as many trees somehow manage to gather together enough moisture reserves to push beautiful new growth in advance of the rains, hence the bright spring splendour of Miombo Woodlands. A practical garden in Harare should be Miombo-like, deciduous and dry largely but with lots of spring colour!

### Your Committee

Chairman - Malcolm Thackray  
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Vice-chairman – Doreen Richards  
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### Committee members:

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### **Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> September**

This month's function is the Bi-annual Rare Plant Sale at the National Botanic Garden on 5<sup>th</sup> Street Extension, main office entrance.

The time: 9.00 am to 2.00 pm

Details are below.

**Directions:** Go up 5<sup>th</sup> Street Extension from Herbert Chitepo Avenue, past Harare Sports Club and Royal Harare Golf Club on your left and the Harare Research Station on your right. Go past the normal entrance to the Botanical Gardens and about 500m further on there is the entrance on the right to the Botanical Gardens Offices.

### **The Day**

We are combining this event with the National Association of Garden Clubs Horticultural Show which is being resuscitated after many years.' So come prepared to spend a couple of hours looking at spectacular exhibits and selecting water-wise plants for your gardens. There will be helpers armed with wheelbarrows to help take your purchases to the selling tables and then to your cars. There will also be a catering area where you can relax and enjoy the tranquillity of the Botanical Gardens. If you go for a short stroll down to the other entrance there is also a Natural Food Fair.

## Xerophytica 2014

As you all know this was an extremely successful event with heaps of praise to Bill and Lynn Kinsey who did the lion and lionesses' share of the work. There was much help from all sorts of people and we all made great friends with the various speakers, visitors and stall-holders who graced the event. Thank you everyone.

Positives from the Congress are the publishing of a new aloe species, ***Aloe haroensis*** that was identified during the post-Congress Tour of the Eastern Highlands. ( For more details see <http://www.bioone.org/doi/abs/10.2985/015.086.0403?journalCode=casu> )

I think we all learned from the various speakers that new species of succulent plants may be all around us and all we need to do is to open our eyes!!!!



***Aloe haroensis***

Thanks to Obety Baptista for the picture, we look forward to seeing the flowers.

Hope to see you all on the 28th.

Mafungi