

Lavender Snippets July 2022

As I write it is raining and windy with a tropical storm covering the whole of New Zealand. After several years of dry winters, the weather gods are really making up for it now. If your lavender is on clay soils the best defense against root rot is a generous dose of trichoderma, a fungi that helps protect roots. With climate change becoming a reality we can probably expect to see these tropical storms come our way every year. It will be challenging times ahead.

With the AGM coming up you should have received your invitation and accompanying information. It will be great to see as many as we can, join the meeting on Zoom. We are a diverse group of Lavender growers geographically spread across many climate zones. It will be great to hear from you all and to especially hear what the association means to you and where do you think it should be heading. There are a few vacancies on our executive so please think about volunteering, especially to our newer members.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND BUSINESS

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of members of the New Zealand Lavender Growers' Association Inc to be held as a

Zoom Video Conference

on

Saturday 3rd September 2022 commencing 9:00am

Nomination for the Officers and Executive

There are vacancies for the Chairperson, Vice Chair, Lavender Snippets editor and Executive members. We are asking that you get involved, some of the members really want to step down and let others play a role in the Association, so if you are interested and want to ask any questions, then please contact the AGM secretary nzlg-secretary@lavender.org.nz

Remits.

Remits are usually rule changes or additions or any subject/question that requires to be voted on at an AGM.

If there are any, please prepare the motion along with some background information and submit by email to the AGM secretary nzlg-secretary@lavender.org.nz

General Business

If you have any business you wish to have discussed, please prepare the question and background, and submit by email to the AGM secretary (as above).

Please email your Nominations, Remits and General Business to the AGM Secretary Tracy Voice at nzlga-library@lavender.org.nz as soon as possible but please no later than Friday 27th August.

NZLGA News

Website www.lavender.org.nz (Please report any issues to webmaster@lavender.org.nz)

If you are not on the Lavender Trail but wish to be please email the Webmaster to be activated. Remember if you are not on you can't be seen. Also, it is a good idea to write a short profile about your farm and business along with some photos for your personal gallery. You can edit your profile description by logging into the members section of our website. Photos will still need to be emailed to the Webmaster for inclusion.

Website tips. To find services that members offer, click on a search category in the **Our Services** list under the Lavender Trail top menu.

Oil Awards

There are only a few days left to get your oil entries in. Please don't leave it to the last minute.

The entries close off date is 22nd July. Entry forms can be downloaded from our website at [Oil Awards Entry Form](#) You will need to log-in to access.

Lavender in New Zealand (our group Facebook page, 62members)



This group is for members of the NZ Lavender Growers Association and affiliates, to share lavender information, pictures, recipes, what you are up to in your lavender patch, items for sale or any other lavender related topics. Only members can see who's in the group and what they post. Talga members are welcome to join. Click on the following link to join.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/387329029014654>

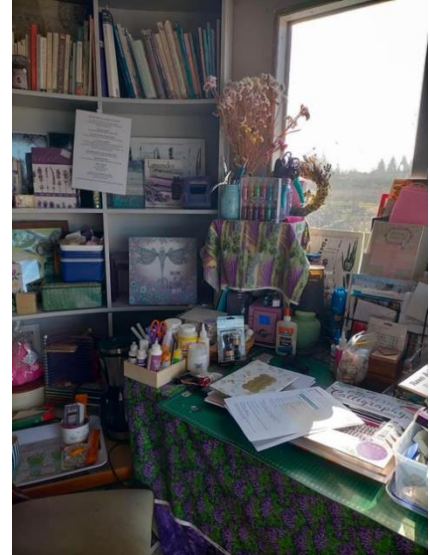


What is happening down on the farm?

Winter time – The lavender is hibernating and, in the south, often under snow. In the north we are hoping our lavender survive with all the rain and soggy ground. It is time to look ahead and plan for the new season. With spring not too far around the corner it is lambing time for some.

Herbal Vision – Charlotte Brown

Time to re-vamp the shop ready for Spring.



At Lavender Abby – Jan Abernethy

What's happening down on our farm, lots of rain plus the start of lambing. We have nine lambs currently.





Lavendyl and Dylans Country Cottages, Kaikoura – Myra McLelland

When we bought the lavender farm, we knew that much of the lavender needed to be replaced. An earthquake that took a long time to recover from, followed by Covid before we had, delayed our plans significantly. This past year we have been able to start on that journey but probably wouldn't have pulled the lavender out last July if we had known what August was going to bring.

We have opted for raised beds for two reasons; firstly, to indicate to visitors that they shouldn't walk into them, secondly to make maintenance of the edge between grass and lavender easier.



We now just need the funds to get soil up from Christchurch and we can finish the job. We have been cutting down the willow trees that bordered the garden as they are redundant now the lemonwoods are mature and they made maintenance more difficult. The willow will either be used for the fire or our eco fencing. That work has ground to a temporary halt due to Al attempting to amputate his toe with the chain saw. He was wearing steel toe caps but the saw bounced back behind it and thankfully didn't cut anything major.

We have made loads of cuttings over the past 16 months so we should have all the plants we need for our new beds. We have a simple propagation system. We put cuttings into little plugs and then into our low plastic tunnels. We need very little water to keep the humidity up and I find watering once a day is sufficient in warm weather or a couple of times a week now which is ideal given our system is manual. Once they have rooted, we pot on into compostable coffee cups with the aim of planting these directly into the ground. We use the same plastic tunnels to protect them until they get large enough and/or the weather gets warm enough that they don't need protection. If necessary, and for shop sale, we pot on into one litre plastic pots. We are getting a good success rate with our cuttings now which is a relief.





We took the lavender out of a second area of the garden last year but have not started work on that. I know what I want to do but we will do as much as we can in the area we are working on before we move onto that one. I guess like many of you we are having to do as much as we can with very reduced funds until tourism picks up.

We are really excited that we have been able to make a start on updating the gardens. As well as lavender we want to provide more appeal when the lavender isn't blooming and to appeal to a wider range of interest groups. I look forward to sharing the end result with you.

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News from Affiliates

News from Talga (our Australian Lavender cousins)

Talga's Lavender Enews for July is now out and can be downloaded from <https://www.lavender.org.nz/> in the Library/Members Resources --> Talga News.

High lights: Announcement of the Talga May 2023 Conference in the Blue mountains at the historic and beautiful venue of The Carrington Hotel, Katoomba. 17th-19th May 2023

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Many thanks for those that have contributed to this lavender Snippets.

If you require additional information arising from this newsletter please do get in touch.

If you would like to contribute, please email your articles and photos by 6th August. We are always interested in hearing from you and what you are up to on your farm.

Next publication mid August.

Kind Regards

Peter Jemmett

NZLGA Chairperson

nzlgc-chair@lavender.org.nz