

# THE LIFESTYLE ISLAMIC GARDEN CLUB

MARCH 2011 NEWSLETTER

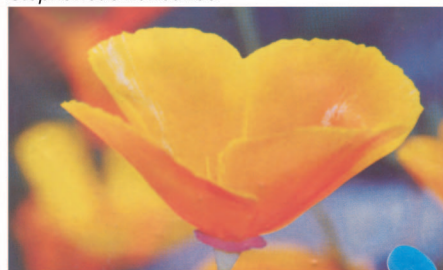


## It's already March again

March is Mothers Natures special gift to gardeners! There are flowers galore, ripe fruits waiting to be nibbled; Herbs full of leaves too be picked and vegetables begging to be harvested for cooking what more can you ask of a garden?



*Stephanotis floribunda*



*California single Poppy*

## OUR NEXT MEETING

**Date:** 5th March 2011  
**Time:** 1:30 for 2:00  
**Venue:** Lifestyle Lecture Hall  
**Topic:** Prize Giving (members who entered MUST ATTEND)  
Annual Subscription are due at this meeting.

### *To do list!*

Although March is officially the last month of summer, the warm sunny weather will continue right through until the end of May this means there is still quite a bit of time left to plant a colourful autumn garden, plants like:- Marigolds, Cosmos and Zinnias. There is also time for one more crop of Basil, Coriander, Parsley and Rocket.

Every one should sow something during March like the stunning Iceland Poppies for winter and spring? Or maybe consider planting plants that have silvery grey foliage; as plants with this type of foliage always stand out in any garden, I would suggest the Gazania's with the silvery foliage, flower shades of white and yellow - not only are Gazania's most attractive but are also water wise and will attract many butterflies to the garden.

Plant up a 'flower feast in pots' with the glorious Bougainvillea 'Bambino' (miniature bougainvilleas) Bambino sports purple bract with green leaves; whilst 'Miski' has cream coloured leaves with soft green edges and orange-pinkish bracts. A must have in any garden! Add a Citrus Tree to your nursery shopping list today. Orange blossoms are fragrant during the spring; the juice of all citrus acts as an internal antiseptic as well as being great for our digestive systems; fresh leaves help to soften skin and clear our system of various toxins. Watch Point! Do not allow any citrus plants to dry out during winter,- or the fruit will spilt when they swell and drop off the tree.

Just a little bit of trivia, the word Orange comes from the Abra word 'narandji' meaning fruit the elephants favour.

### *Tips!*

- Divide established and overgrown clumps of Bearded and Louisiana Irises and replant in freshly composted soil.
- Because of the amount of rain we have had during the past few weeks, be on the lookout for mildew on Roses, Zinnias, Dahlias and Salvias. (spray with Funginex or Dithane).
- Pinch back Fuchsia's for a great autumn display.
- Prune Hydrangea flowers stems back to a plump bud when they have lost their colour; this will ensure a few more flowers before Autumn.
- **Night Stars!** If like me, you are away at work during the day and can only enjoy the garden of an evening - remember to make use of plants that have shades of white, cream or yellow. Suggestions for shrubs: (White Icebergs, Choisya, Moonflowers, Dietes or Begonias. As a **ground cover** make use of Alyssum and White Nancy; as a **climber**, Stephanotis or Honeysuckle (both have a wonderful fragrances).

Produced for the members of the **Lifestyle Soweto Garden Club**.  
Your comments and suggestions would be welcome, contact:  
Pam Groen on 011 792 5616

**Lifestyle Home Garden**  
Corner Beyers Naude Drive and Ysterhout Avenue,  
Randpark Ridge. PO Box 2568 Northcliff 2115.  
Tel: 011 792 5616, Fax: 011 792 2257



*Yours in  
the garden*

Pam Groen