



# The Pink Geranium

*Tuesday 1 September 2020*

Dear Gardening Friends

What a year we have had living with Covid and lockdown since late March. It has been tough for many of us but we prefer to dwell on the positives at this time, and there are many.

Firstly, it has taught us that we are all connected and we live in a relatively small world. Thanks to technology we have been able to communicate, many of us have been able to run our businesses and we have kept connected to family and friends. We are mindful of the millions of our fellow South Africans who do not have the privilege of social distancing, internet connections and work. We continue to support the many worthy causes trying to help those in need.

From an outdoor and gardening perspective it has taught me that our environment is so important and it was a blessing to observe nature reclaiming some space due to a slower pace of life. At the nursery we had regular visits to our lawn by the resident blue crane family that are normally rather shy. Furthermore, we have had regular sightings of several cape fox in our picking garden and nursery parking lot. We are also enjoying our resident mongoose family that are calling our nursery garden home.

Reports from our industry is that there is a shortage in plants for the season due to a combination of growers growing less and consumers spending time at home gardening. From our side we have bulked up on our agapanthus offer and stock levels are looking great for the season ahead. We have also started with our salvia cuttings and will bulk numbers to ensure healthy stock levels for summer.

Edible plants have become fashionable and we will need to focus some attention on this. I can report that we have sourced and carry stock of a great range of citrus, including Eureka Lemons and Tahiti Limes.

Saturday nursery and farm walks have been popular. We plan to do several more during September and it is a pleasure to share some of our natural vegetation and Renosterveld with visitors. We hope to host a couple of planting workshops this year so make sure that you are on our mailing list regarding events.

Enjoy your spring season.

Regards

James

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