

C.V.

Cecil Clive Thompson

2018

CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal Details

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EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Diploma in Horticulture at Cape Technicon 1988 – 1990

Did Practical training at Meerhof Training Centre (Spoornet), Isando District Office (Spoornet) and at Clairwood Nursery in Durban (Spoornet)

Received the Certificate for Practical Examination (Gold) from The Institute for Parks and Recreation at Megawatt Park (Eskom) in December 1990.

Completed the TOP 2 (Toesighouer Opleidings Program / Supervisors Training Program) at SpoorNet successfully 1997.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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Was employed by SpoorNet in Bloemfontein from January 1991 as Regional Horticulturist for the areas Free State, Lesotho and Northern Cape. I had to do all the budgeting and planning for the horticultural department in these areas. Landscaping for SpoorNet and decorations at functions was also part of the job description. I had to manage Hamilton Nursery for SpoorNet. Off-track work like removing of trees and spraying of weeds on SpoorNet owned land was done from the nursery. I also monitored and managed the environmental issues within SpoorNet. The nursery was run as a private venture to generate cash for SpoorNet. The workforce that I was in charge of consisted of:

- **1 Assistant Horticulturist**
- **2 Senior Gardeners**
- **1 Driver**
- **14 General workers**
- **1 Admin Clerk**
- **1 or 2 Student Horticulturists per year. (Student Training Program within SpoorNet Horticulture)**

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From August 1997 I worked at Spitskop Garden Pavilion in Bloemfontein as manager of the nursery. Radio talks on 2 regional radio stations and demonstrations to the public were my promotional duties. Landscaping and advising clients on landscapes was also part of the job description. Lectures on landscaping and relevant issues were the main themes in the talks that I did in the rural areas. Stock control and day to day sales was also done by me. Stock control was done on a weekly basis. The personnel consisted of:

- **Owner and Spouse**
- **Horticulturist (Me)**
- **1 Senior Sales lady**
- **1 Cashier (on weekends 2- 4 cashiers)**
- **6 Salesmen**
- **3 Watering and Maintenance personnel**
- **Casuals on a day to day basis.**

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Was employed at Colorama Garden Centre in Pretoria from January 2000 as manager of the Garden Centre. Was retrenched due to company restructure in March 2000. Staff compliment was as follows:

- **Owner**
- **Horticulturist (Me)**
- **1 Cashier**
- **4 Salesmen**
- **3 Watering and Maintenance personnel**
- **Casuals on a day to day basis**

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Employed by Trafalgar Property & Financial Services as Area Manager for the Pots & Gardens Division, Gauteng from June 2000 to March 2003. I was transferred to Durban in March 2003 to run the division in Kwazulu Natal. I was responsible for the running of the divisions as well as doing the sales / tenders in conjunction with the sales personnel. Visiting of sites and planning of work, leave and staff movements were done by me. Salaries and the general admin on a day to day basis were also done by me. Budgets and expenditures for the department were managed by me. I am computer literate and

was doing all the admin of the Pots & Gardens division on computer. Staff compliment in Gauteng were as follows:

- 1 Maintenance Technician / Driver (Indoor plants)
- 32 Gardeners at various sites
- Casuals on a ad hoc basis

Staff compliment in Durban were as follows:

- 2 Assistants Managers
- 1 Admin Person
- 6 Maintenance Technician / Driver (Indoor plants)
- 45 Gardeners at various outdoor sites
- Casuals on a ad hoc basis

I was also the Area Manager for the Trafalgar Cleaning Department in Pretoria. I had to make sure that the equipment and chemicals were utilized at maximum levels of efficiency. I had to manage all the admin generated for the department and had to liaise with the clients on a weekly basis. Wages, chemical orders and equipment orders had to be done on a monthly basis. The cleaning staff consisted of the following:

- 4 Supervisors
- 52 Cleaners at various sites
- Casuals on an ad hoc basis

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Was employed at the Topturf Group as a Business Unit Manager from 1 April 2004 to 30 November 2006. Was responsible for the garden maintenance at 20 sites in Gauteng. This included budgets and logistic control as well as the payroll. I was also responsible for the sales and marketing of the Maintenance Division. Completed the “*Workwise*” Training course for Managers and also the “*Free To Grow*” course. The following staff was employed in this business unit:

- 5 Supervisors
- 57 Landscape Technicians at various sites
- Casuals on a ad hoc basis

Was the Director of Operations (partner) in “*The Growing Business*”
The Business concentrated on the installation / revamping and maintenance of new and existing landscapes (Corporate and Residential) I was also on the Executive Committee for the *South African Landscape Institute (SALI)* in Gauteng. *The Growing Business* employed the following staff:

- **2 Directors**
- **1 Admin Person**
- **1 Subcontractor with 16 permanent staff and up to 30 casuals**

During my time at “*The Growing Business*” we were part of SALI (EXCO Gauteng) and won the following categories in their “*Awards of Excellence*” for 2008:

- **2 Gold awards for execution and installation of new garden, designed by other.**
- **1 Bronze award for execution and installation of new garden, designed by other.**
- **1 Gold award for designing and installing a “Water Wise” irrigation system (underground tanks and pumps included) in a garden designed by other.**
- **Rand Water Trophy for the best design and installation of a water wise irrigation system in Africa.**

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Was employed by Topturf (Mauritius) Ltd. as Landscape Maintenance Manager at Le St. Geran Hotel and golf course from 28 August 2008 to 15 November 2008. I had to ensure that the 9 Hole golf course was in perfect playing condition and I also had to run a small nursery on site to grow plants on for the gardens. The environmental side of things were also managed by me under the “Green Globe” environmental program as used by the Hotel Industry. The following staff was under my direct control:

- **1 Senior Supervisor for the hotel gardens and beach**
- **1 Junior Supervisor for the hotel gardens, beach and irrigation**
- **1 Senior Supervisor for the golf course**

- **1 Junior Supervisor for the golf course**
- **1 Mechanic**
- **1 Executive gardener at the shareholders complex in Le Tousrock.**
- **30 Garden Technicians**

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Was employed, as from 17 November 2008 by Bidvest Topturf (North West Province) as Landscape Maintenance Manager for the Vacation Club and Old Staff Village at Sun City and also Manager for the Resort where I was in charge of all the Fauna and Flora at Sun City. From an environmental side I had to ensure that we were operating under strict environmental standards as laid down by Sun International and their “*Green Team*” initiative. Serving on Both the Green Teams and Health and Safety committee I was also the responsible person for all the Health and Safety aspects on the resort for Bidvest Topturf. The following staff were under my direct control:

- **8 Senior Managers**
- **1 Master Falconer (for the Fauna side)**
- **16 Supervisors**
- **170 Garden Technicians**
- **5 Casuals (can go up to 40 during the annual Nedbank Golf Challenge)**

At Sun City we were nominated for the Business Partner of the year awards in 2008-2009, 2009-2010 and 2011-2012. The Business Partner of the year trophy was awarded to us for 2009-2010 and 2011-2012. We were also nominated as Contractor of the Year for 2012 – 2013.

I was also awarded the Eco Warrior Award for May 2009 and September 2011 and was nominated for Eco Warrior of the year award for 2012 for installing owl and bat boxes on the resort to lure back the wildlife for this area. I have been involved in eradicating Illegal Alien and Invader plants from the resort and incorporating

the use of “grey” water to irrigate the lawns as well as Solar panels to heat the water in the Vacation Club units for the guests use. I was also responsible for garden tours for guests and conference groups. On site there was also a nursery which was managed by a senior manager and also was overseen by me. Plants for the resort were grown in this nursery.

During May to July 2013 I assisted with the Greens Department of Warner Brothers on a movie called “Blended” that was shot at Sun City Resort and starring Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore. Liaised with them on all aspects of the storage and implementation of plants for the movie as well as supplying and managing a small team dedicated to them from our side and all the logistics involved with regards to the gardens and dressing areas for filming.

Was Employed by Bidvest Managed Solutions at Bidvest Landscaping as the Divisional Manager for Kwazulu Natal. I started in this position on 1 October 2013 to 25 February 2016. My responsible area stretched from Richards Bay in the North to Cape Town in the South along the Eastern Coastline. I had the following staff reporting to me:

- 6 Managers**
- 1 Business Development Executive**
- 1 Admin Manager**
- 125 Garden Technicians**

Achieved my Certification as a SAGIC Invasive Species Consultant on 25 June 2015

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Currently employed (as from 1 April 2016) by Landscape Solutions (Pty) Ltd. in Gaborone Botswana as Operations Manager. Staff consists of the following currently:

- **Managing Director**
- **Myself as Operations Manager**
- **1 Assistant Operations Manager**
- **1 Financial Manager**
- **1 Personal assistant to the MD**
- **1 HR Manager and 1 Assistant HR Manager**
- **1 Projects and Tender Manager**
- **1 SHE Officer**
- **1 Wages Clerk**
- **4 Junior Managers (3 Landscape and 1 Cleaning)**
- **312 General Workers (Landscape and Cleaning)**

REFERENCES

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