

VEGETABLE PLANTING GUIDE

FEB

Control weeds. Plant bare-root fruit trees. Sow fava beans, peas, radishes. Plant softneck garlic (free-draining soil only). Prune, feed and mulch blueberries

MAR

Control weeds and slugs. Plant rhubarb and asparagus starts. Sow cilantro, leeks and broccoli. Feed fall planted garlic and greens. Plant potatoes now through June

APR

Plant root crops. Plant cabbages, cauliflower, onions. Sow carrots, chard, spinach and lettuce, cilantro, parsley

MAY

After May 15 (frost free date for our area, according to some sources. *The Old Farmer's Almanac* says April 22) you can sow squash and beans and plant out seedlings of tomato and pepper (protect from 40 degree nights! Cool temps can stunt plants). Hold off on planting basil till June 1! There's still time to plant onion and shallot sets. You can still sow peas and parsley through May. Water garden if rainfall drops below an inch a week.

JUN

Continue sowing squash and beans. Plant carrots (seed) and celery (transplants). Plant basil and other annual herb starts. Apply organic mulches while ground is moist.

JUL

Net blueberries if you want fruit! Prepare soil freed up by early vegetable crops; you can still sow lettuce, carrots, beans and chard. Plant broccoli and Brussels sprouts for fall harvest.

AUG

Sow lettuce, mustard greens, turnips and spinach.

ORNAMENTAL GARDENING GUIDE

MARCH

Plant trees and shrubs. Prepare new areas for planting. Divide and plant perennials. Pull weeds before they flower and set seed. Fertilize just about everything unless you did it in February. Prune spring-flowering shrubs as blossoms fade. Protect new growth of bulbs and perennials from slugs.

APRIL

Time to start new lawns, consider replacing lawns with xeriscaping. Watch for local plant sales. Plant perennials, gladiolus and hardy annuals. Feed bulbs while they are green and growing. Continue pruning spring-flowering shrubs. Shear ivy and heather. Cut old leaves off sword ferns. Trim lavender and sage after new growth begins. Check irrigation systems.

MAY

Plant dahlias and other tender bulbs. Plant perennials, annuals and container plants. Remove dead flowers from young rhodies. Water rhododendrons and bulbs liberally. Start aphid control – flush with water, spray insecticidal soap. Control slugs. Weed and mulch between plants.

JUNE

Begin regular feeding of container plants. Prune rhododendrons and azaleas. Control aphids with water and insecticidal soap. Watch for cutworms and hand-pick! Stake summer-blooming perennials. Cut back those that have bloomed. Continue mulching.

JULY

Watering lawns is not essential but it helps discourage weeds. Prune broad-leaved evergreens. Watch for cutworms. Hand-pick or use BT. Shorten new growth on espaliered apples and pears. Deadhead early perennials. Stake tall perennials before they flop. Replenish mulches to hold moisture.

AUGUST

Water annuals liberally, in flower beds or pots. Dead-head perennials, roses. Remove diseased leaves from roses, rose beds. Groom and feed container plants regularly. Replant tired containers. Order spring-flowering bulbs. Remember to moisten compost piles.



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