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# MAY gardening tips

OSU EXTENSION SERVICE

## PLANNING

- Prepare and prime irrigation system for summer.
- Use a soil thermometer to help you know when to plant vegetables. Wait until the soil is consistently above 70 degrees Fahrenheit to plant tomatoes, squash, melons, peppers and eggplant.
- Place pheromone traps in apple trees to detect presence of codling moth. Plan a

control program of sprays, baits, or predators when moths are found.



## MAINTENANCE AND CLEAN UP

- If needed, fertilize rhododendrons and azaleas with acid-type fertilizer. If established and healthy, their nutrient needs should be minimal. Remove spent blossoms.
- When selecting new roses, choose plants labeled for resistance to diseases. Fertilize roses and control rose diseases such as mildew with a registered fungicide.

## PLANTING/PROPAGATION

- Plant dahlias, gladioli, and tuberous begonias in mid-May.
- Plant chrysanthemums for fall color.
- Plant these vegetables (dates vary locally; check with local gardeners):

**Oregon coast:** Snap beans, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cantaloupes, pickling cucumbers, dill, kale, parsnips, peppers, pumpkins, summer and winter squash, sweet corn, and tomatoes.

**Western Oregon:** Mid-May, transplant tomato and pepper seedlings.

**Western Valleys, Portland, Roseburg, Medford:** Snap and lima beans, Brussels sprouts, cantaloupes, slicing and pickling cucumbers, dill, eggplant, kale, peppers, pumpkins, summer and winter squash, onions, potatoes, tomatoes, and watermelon.

**Lower elevations, eastern Oregon (dates vary widely):** Snap and lima beans, beets, celery, sweet corn, slicing and pickling cucumbers, dill, kale, kohlrabi, onions, parsley, parsnips, peppers, white potatoes, pumpkins, summer and winter squash, and tomatoes.

**Central Oregon and higher elevations of eastern Oregon:** Direct seed carrots, corn (late May), chard, kohlrabi, and potatoes. Transplant Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, cucumbers (late May), leeks, or peppers.

**Columbia and Snake River valleys, Ontario:** Cantaloupes, dill, eggplant, kale, okra, peppers, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, and watermelon.

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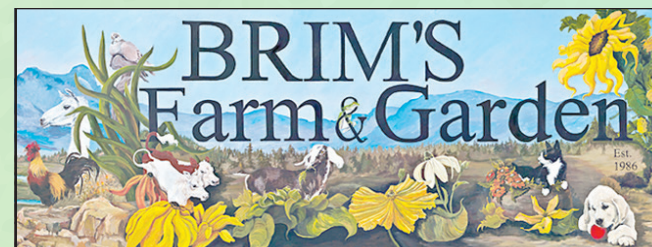
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