April

Central Florida Edition

What to Plant

**Annuals:** New varieties of coleus do well in sun or shade and provide vivid colors and patterns for months. See: [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

**Bulbs:** Planting early-, mid-, and late-blooming varieties of daylily will insure months of color from these low maintenance plants. See: [Bulbs for Florida](#)

**Herbs:** Add nasturtiums to your herb garden. The leaves and flowers add a peppery zest to salads. See: [Nasturtium, Garden - Tropaeolum majus L.](#)

**Vegetables:** Continue planting warm season crops such as bean, cantaloupe, and okra. Mulch well to prevent weeds, and provide water if the weather has been dry. See: [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide Central Florida Edition](#)

**Pests:** Monitor landscape plants weekly for aphids on tender new growth. See: [Insects Sheet 2 Landscape Integrated Pest Management](#)

**Flowering Plants:** Check for thrips if leaves and/or flowers of gardenias and roses are damaged. See: [Insects Sheet 1](#)

**Divide perennials and bulbs:** Divide clumps of bulbs, ornamental grasses, or herbaceous perennials to expand or rejuvenate garden beds or to pass-along to friends. See: [Propagation of Landscape Plants Perennial Gardening in Florida](#)

**Lawn Problems:** Many lawn problems, such as lack of water, mimic insect damage. Confirm the damage is being caused by insects before applying a pesticide. See: [Insect Pest Management on Turfgrass](#)

**Shrubs:** Choose from a wide variety of shrubs to add to the landscape now. See: [Florida-Friendly Landscaping Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design Planting Shrubs in the Florida Landscape](#)

**Lawns:** Apply fertilizer after new growth has started. Choose a fertilizer (not a "weed and feed") with little or no phosphorus unless a soil test indicates the need for it. A fertilizer with controlled-release nitrogen yields longer-lasting results. See: [Your Florida Lawn Bahiagrass for Florida Lawns Bermudagrass for Florida Lawns Centipedegrass for Florida Lawns St. Augustinegrass for Florida Lawns Zoysiagrass for Florida Lawns](#)

What to Do

**What to Do Every Month**

- Adjust irrigation based on rainfall.
- Deadhead flowers to encourage new blooms.
- Monitor the garden for insects and disease.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and perennials and water until established.
- **Mow lawns** at recommended heights:
  - St. Augustine & Bahia: 3-4”
  - Centipede: 1.5-2.0”
  - Dwarf St. Augustine: 2.5”
  - Zoysiagrass

**UF Resources For Gardeners**

- UF/IFAS Publications (EDIS) [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/)
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping [http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/)
- Solutions For Your Life [http://solutionsforyourlife.com](http://solutionsforyourlife.com)
- Gardening in a Minute Radio Program [http://gardeninginaminute.com](http://gardeninginaminute.com)
- Florida Master Gardener Program [http://gardening solutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/](http://gardening solutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/)
- Living Green [http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/)

Comments or suggestions?
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